TATLER;

OR,

LUCUBRATIONS

OF

ISAAC BICKERSTAFF, Efq;

VOLUME THE SECOND.



LONDON:

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Edward Wortley Mountague, Esq;

SIR,

WHEN I fend you this volume, I am rather to make you a request than a Dedication. I must desire, that if you think fit to throw away any moments on it, you would not do it after reading those excellent pieces with which you are usually conversant. The images which you will meet with here. will be very faint, after the perusal of the Greeks and Romans, who are your ordinary companions. I must confess I am obliged to you for the tafte of many of their excellencies. which I had not observed until you pointed them to me. I am very proud that there are some things in these Papers which I know you pardon; and it is no small pleasure to have one's labours fuffered by the judgment of a man, who fo well understands the true charms of eloquence and poefy. But I direct this address to you; not that I think I can entertain you with my Writings, but to thank you for the new delight I have, from your conversation, in those of other men.

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DEDICATION.

May you enjoy a long continuance of the true relish of the happiness heaven has bestowed upon you. I know not how to say a more affectionate thing to you, than to wish that you may be always what you are; and that you may ever think, as I know you now do, that you have a much larger fortune than you want. I am,

SIR,

Your most obedient, and

most humble servant,

ISAAC BICKERSTAFT.

THE

TATLER.

Nº 51. Saturday, August 6, 1709.

Quicquid agunt homines—nostri farrago libelli.
Juv. Sat. 1. v. 85.

Whatever good is done, whatever ill-By human kind, shall this collection fill.

White's Chocolate-house, August 5.

The history of Orlando the Fair. Chap. II.

ORTUNE being now propitious to the gay Orlando, he dreffed, he spoke, he moved as a man might be supposed to do in a nation of Pygmies, and had an equal value for our approbation or diflike. It is usual for those, who profess a contempt of the world, to fly from it and live in obscurity; but Orlando, with a greater magnanimity, contemned it, and appeared in it to tell them fo. If therefore his exalted mien met with an unwelcome reception, he was fure always to double the cause which gave the distaste. You see our Beauties affect a negligence in the ornament of their hair, and adjusting their head-dresses, as conscious that they adorn whatever they wear. Orlando had not only this humour in common with other Beauties, but also had a neglock Voi, II. whether

whether things became him, or not, in a world be cortemned. For this reason, a noble particularity appeared in all his economy, furniture, and equipage. And to convince the prefent little race, how unequal all their measures were to an Antediluvian, as he called himself. in respect of the insects which now appear for men, he fometimes rode in an open tumbril, of less fize than ordinary, to flow the largeness of his limbs, and the grandeur of his personage, to the greater advantage: At other feasons, all his appointments had a magnificence. as if it were formed by the genius of Trimalchio of old, which shewed itself in doing ordinary things with an air of pomp and grandeur. Orlando therefore called for Tea by heat of drum; his valet got ready to shave him by a trumpet to horse; and water was brought for his teeth, when the found was changed to boots and faddle.

In all these glorious excesses from the common practice, did the happy Orlando live and reign in an uninterrupted tranquillity, until an unlucky accident brought to his remembrance, that one evening he was married before he courted the nuptials of Villaria. Several fatal Memorandums were produced to revive the memory of this accident, and the unhappy Lover was for ever banished her presence, to whom he owed the support of his just renown and gallantry. But distress does not debase noble minds; it only changes the scene, and gives them new glory by that alteration. Orlando therefore now rives in a garret, and calls to his neighbour-skies to pity his dolours, and to find redress for an unhappy Lover. All high Spirits, in any great agitation of mind, are inclined to relieve themselves by poetry: The renowned porter of Oliver had not more volumes around his cell in the college of Bedlam, than Orlando in his present apartment. And though inferting poetry in the midft of profe be thought a licence among correct Writers not to be indulged, it is hoped the necessity of doing it, to give a just idea of the hero of whom we treat, will plead for liberty we shall hereafter take, to print Orlando's foliloquies in verie and profe, after the manner of great Wits, and fuch as those to whom they are near allied.

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Will's Coffee houfe, August 5.

A good company of us were this day to fee, or rather to hear, an artful person do several feats of activity with his throat and windpipe. The first thing, wherewith he presented us, was a ring of bells, which he imitated in a most miraculous manner; after that, he gave us all the different notes of a pack of hounds, to our great delight and aftonithment. The company expressed their applause with much noise; and never was heard such a harmony of men and dogs: But a certain plump merry felllow, from an angle of the room, fell a crowing like a cock fo ingeniously, that he won our hearts from the other operator in an instant. As soon as I saw him, I recollected I had feen him on the stage, and immediately knew it to be Tom Mirrour, the comical actor. He immediately addressed himself to me, and told me, he was furprifed to see a Virtuoso take satisfaction in any reprefentations below that of human life; and asked me, whether I thought this acting bells and dogs was to be confidered under the notion of Wit, Humour, or Satire? Were it not better, continued he, to have fome particular picture of man laid before your eyes, that might incite your laughter? He had no fooner spoke the word. but he immediately quitted his natural shape, and talked to me in a very different air and tone from what he had used before; upon which, all that fat near us laughed: but I faw no destortion in his countenance, or any thing that appeared to me difagreeable. I asked Pacalet, what meant that sudden whisper about us? for I could not take the jest. He answered, The Gentleman you were talking to, affumed your air and countenance fo exactly, that all fell a laughing to fee how little you knew your. felf, and how much you were enamoured with your own image. But that person, continued my monitor, if mea would make the right use of him, might be as instrumental to their reforming errors in gesture, language, and speech, as a dancing master, linguist, or orator. You see he laid yourself before you with so much ad. dress, that you saw nothing particular in his behaviour: He has to happy a knack of representing errors and imperfections. perfections, that you can bear your faults in him as well as in yourfelf: He is the first mimic that ever gave the beauties, as well as the deformities, of the man he acted. What Mr. Dryden said of a very great man may be well applied to him:

Not one, but all mankind's epitome.

You are to know, that this Pantomime may be faid to be a species, of himself: He has no commerce with the rest of mankind, but as they are the objects of imitation; like the Indian fowl, called the Mock-bird, who has no note of his own, but hits every found in the wood as foon as he hears it; fo that Mirrour is at once a copy and an original. Poor Mirrour's fate, as well as talent, is like that of the bird we just now spoke of; the nightingale, the linnet, the lark, are delighted with his company; but the buzzard, the crow, and the owl, are ob-ferved to be his mortal enemies. Whenever Sophronius meets Mirrour, he receives him with civility and respect. and well knows, a good copy of himself can be no injury to him; but Bathilius shuns the street where he expects to meet him; for he, that knows his every step and look is constrained and affected, must be afraid to be rivalled in his action, and of having it discovered to be unnatural, by its being practifed by another as well as himfelf.

From my own Apartment, August 5.

Letters from Coventry and other places have been sent to me, in answer to what I have said in relation to my antagonist Mr. Powell; and advise me, with warm language, to keep to subjects more proper for me than such high points. But the writers of these epistles mistake the observations: For you are to understand, that the title of this Paper gives me a right of taking to myself, and inserting in it, all such parts of any Book or Letter which are foreign to the purpose intended, or professed, by the writer: So that suppose two great Divines should argue, and treat each other with warmth and levity, unbecoming

unbecoming their subject or character, all that they fay unfit for that place is very proper to be inferted here. Therefore from time to time, in all Writings which shall hereafter be published, you shall have from me extracts of all that shall appear not to the purpose; and for the benefit of the Gentle Reader, I will shew what to turn over unread, and what to peruse. For this end I have a mathematical fieve preparing, in which I will fift every page and paragraph; and all that falls through I shall make bold with for my own use. The same thing will be as beneficial in speech; for all superfluous expressions in talk fall to me also: As, when a pleader at the bar designs to be extremely impertinent and troublesome, and cries, " Under favour of the Court, --- With fub-" mission, my Lord——I humbly offer"—and "I "think I have well confidered this matter; for I would " be very far from trifling with your Lordship's time, " or trespassing upon your patience-however, thus I " will venture to fay -- " and fo forth. Or elfe, when a fufficient felf-conceited coxcomb is bringing out something in his own praise, and begins "Without vanity, " I must take this upon me to affert." There is also a trick which the Fair Sex have, that will greatly contribute to swell my Volumes: As, when a woman is going to abuse her best friend, " Pray, says she, have you " heard what is faid of Mrs. fuch a one? I am heartily " forry to hear any thing of that kind of one I have to " great a value for; but they make no fcrupie of telling " it; and it was not spoken of to me as a secret, for now " the town rings of it." All fuch flowers in Rhetorick, and little refuges for malice, are to be noted, and naturally belong only to Tatlers. By this method you will immediately find Folio's contract themselves into Octavo's, and the labour of a fortnight got over in half a day.

St. James's Coffee-house, August 5.

Last night arrived a mail from Liston, which gives a very pleasing account of the posture of affairs in that part of the world, the enemy having been necessitated wholly to abandon the blockade of Olivenza. These advices say, that Sir John Jennings is arrived at Liston.

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When that Gentleman left Barcelona, his Catholic Majetty was taking all possible methods for carrying on an offensive war. It is observed with great satisfaction in the Court of Spain, that there is a very good intelligence between the General officers: Count Staremberg and Mr. Stanbope acting in all things with such unanimity, that the public affairs receive great advantages from their personal friendship and eseem to each other, and mutual assistance in promoting the service of the common cause.

"This is to give notice, that if any able bodied Pa-

" Pepin, the faid Palatine shall be settled in a freehold

" of forty shillings per Annum in the county of Middlefex."

Nº 52. Tuesday, August 9, 1709.

White's Chocolate-house, August 7.

Delamira resigns her Fan.

ONG had the croud of the gay and young flood in suspence, as to their fate in their passion to the beauteous Delamira; but all their hopes are lately vanished, by the declaration that she has made of her choice, to take the happy Archibald for her companion for life. Upon her making this known, the expence of sweet powder and jessamine are considerably abated; and the Mercers and Milleners complain of her want of public spirit, in not concealing longer a secret which was so much the benefit of trade. But so it happened; and no one was in considerce with her in carrying on this traaty, but the matchless Virgulta, whose despair of ever entering the matrimonial state made her, some nights before Delamira's resolution was published to the world, address herself to her in the following manner:

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" Delamira! you are now going into that flate of. " life, wherein the use of your charms is wholly to be " applied to the pleafing only one man. That fwim-" ming air of your body, that janty bearing of your head over one shoulder, and that inexpressible beauty in your manner of playing your Fan, must be lowered. " into a more confined behaviour; to shew, that you " would rather shun than receive addresses for the future. "Therefore, dear Delamira, give me those excellencies " you leave off, and acquaint me with your manner of " charming: For I take the liberty of our friendship to " fay, that when I consider my own stature, motion, " complexion, wit, or breeding, I cannot think myfelf any way your inferior; yet do I go through crouds " without wounding a man, and all my acquaintance " marry round me, while I live a virgin unasked; and, " I think, unregarded."

Delamira heard her with great attention, and, with that dexterity which is natural to her, told her, that all she had above the rest of her Sex and contemporary Beauties was wholly owing to a Fan, (that was left her by her mother, and had been long in the family) which whoever had in possession, and used with skill, should command the hearts of all her beholders: And fince, faid she smiling, I have no more to do with extending my conquests or triumphs, I will make you a present of this inestimable rarity. Virgulta made her expressions of the highest gratitude for so uncommon a confidence in her, and defired she would shew her what was peculiar in the management of that utenfil, which rendered it of fuch general force while she was mistress of it. Delamira replied, you fee, Madam, Cupid is the principal figure painted on it; and the skill in playing this Fan is, in your several motions of it, to let him appear as little as possible; for honourable Lovers fly all endeavours to enfnare them; and your Cupid must hide his bow and arrow, or he will never be fure of his game. You may observe, continued she, that in all public assemblies, the Sexes feem to feparate themselves, and draw up to attack each other with eye-shot: That is the time when the Fan, which is all the armour of a woman, is of most use

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in our defence; for our minds are construed by the waving of that little instrument, and our thoughts appear in composure or agitation according to the motion of it. You may observe, when Will Peregrine comes into the side-box, Miss Gatty stutters her Fan as a sty does its wings round a candle; while her elder sister, who is as much in love with him as she is, is as grave as a Vestal at his entrance, and the consequence is accordingly. He watches half the Play for a glance from her sister, while Gatty is overlooked and neglected. I wish you heartily as much success in the management of it as I have had: If you think sit to go on where I left off, I will give you a short account of the execution I have made with it.

Cimon, who is the dullest of mortals, and though a wonderful great scholar, does not only pause, but seems to take a nap with his eyes open between every other fentence in his discourse: Him have I made a leader in affemblies; and one blow on the shoulder as I passed by him has raised him to a downright impertinent in all conversations. The airy Will Sampler is become as lethargic by this my wand, as Cimon is sprightly. Take it, good girl, and use it without mercy; for the reign of beauty never lasted full three years, but it ended in marriage, or condemnation to virginity. As you fear therefore the one, and hope for the other, I expect an hourly journal of your triumphs; for I have it by certain tradition, that it was given to the first who wore it, by an inchantrefs, with this remarkable power, that it beflows a husband in half a year on her who does not overlook her proper minute; but assigns to a long despair the woman who is well offered, and neglects that propofal. May occasion attend your charms, and your charms flip no occasion. Give me, I say, an account of the progress of your forces at our next meeting; and you shall hear what I think of my new condition. I shall meet my future spouse this moment. Farewel. Live in just terror of the dreadful words, "She was."

From my own Apartment, August 8.

I had the the honour this evening to visit some ladies, where the subject of the conversation was Modesty; which which they commended as a quality quite as becoming in men as in women. I took the liberty to fav, it might be as beautiful in our behaviour as in theirs, yet it could not be faid, it was as successful in life; for as it was the only recommendation in them, fo it was the greatest obflacle to us both in Love and Bufinefs. A Gentleman present was of my mind, and said, that we must describe the difference between the Modesty of women and that of men, or we should be confounded in our reasonings upon it; for this virtue is to be regarded with respect to our different ways of life. The Woman's province is to be careful in her ceconomy, and chaste in her affections: The Man's to be active in the improvement of his fortune, and ready to undertake whatever is confiftent with his reputation for that end. Modesty therefore in a woman has a certain agreeable fear in all she enters upon; and in men it is composed of a right judgment of what is proper for them to attempt. From hence it is, that a discreet man is always a modest one. It is to be noted, that Modesty in a man is never to be allowed as a good quality, but a weakness, if it suppresses his virtue, and hides it from the world, when he has at the fame time a mind to exert himself. A French authotays very juttly, that Modesty is to the other virtues in a man, what shade in a picture is to the parts of the thing represented. It makes all the other beauties conspicuous, which would otherwise be but a wild heap of colours. This shade in our actions must therefore be very justly applied; for if there be too much, it hides our good qualities, inflead of shewing them to advantage.

Nefter in Athens was an unhappy inflance of this truth; for he was not only in his profession the greatest man of that age, but had given more proofs of it than any other man ever did; yet for want of that natural freedom and audacity which is necessary in commerce with men, his personal modesty overthrew all his public actions. Nester was in those days a skilful Architect, and in a manner the inventor of the use of mechanic powers; which he brought to so great persection, that he knew to an atom what soundation would bear such a superstructure: And they record of him, that he was so prodigiously exact, that for the experiment's sake, he

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built an edifice of great beauty, and feeming strength; but contrived fo as to bear only its own weight, and not to admit the addition of the least particle. This building was beheld with much admiration by all the Virtuofi of that time; but fell down with no other pressure, but the fettling of a Wren upon the top of it. Yet Neffor's modelly was such, that his art and skill were soon disregarded, for want of that manner with which men of the world support and affert the merit of their own performances. Soon after this instance of his art, Athens was, by the treachery of its enemies, burned to the ground. This gave Neftor the greatest occasion that ever builder had to render his name immortal, and his person venerable: For all the new city rofe according to his disposition, and all the monuments of the glories and distresses of that people were erected by that sole artist: Nav, all their temples, as well as houses, were the effects of his study and labour; infomuch that it was faid by an old fage, Sure, Neftor will now be famous; for the habitations of Gods, as well as men, are built by his contrivance. But this bashful quality still put a damp upon his great knowledge, which has as fatal an effect upon men's reputations as poverty; for as it was faid, " the poor man faved the city, and the poor man's labour was forgot;" fo here we find, the modelt man built the city, and the modelt man's skill was unknown.

Thus we fee every man is the maker of his own fortune; and what is very odd to confider, he must in some measure be the trumpet of his same: Not that men are to be tolerated who directly praise themselves; but they are to be endued with a fort of desensive eloquence, by which they shall be always capable of expressing the

rules and arts by which they govern themselves.

Varithes was the man of all I have read of the happiest in the true possession of this quality of Modesty. My Author says of him, Modesty in Varillus is really a virtue; for it is a voluntary quality, and the effect of good sense. He is naturally bold and enterprising; but so justly discreet, that he never acts or speaks any thing, but those who behold him know he has forborn much more than he has performed or uttered, out of deserence

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to the persons before whom he is. This makes Varillus truly amiable, and all his attempts successful; for, as bad as the world is thought to be by those who are perhaps unskilled in it, want of success in our actions is generally owing to want of judgment in what we ought to attempt, or a rustic Modesty, which will not give us leave to undertake what we ought. But how unfortunate this distinct temper is to those who are possessed with it, may be best seen in the success of such as are wholly un-

acquainted with it.

We have one peculiar elegance in our language above all others, which is conspicuous in the term Fellow, This word added to any of our Adjectives extremely varies, or quite alters, the fense of that with which it is joined. Thus though a modest man is the most unfortunate of all men, yet a modest fellow is as superlatively happy. A modest fellow is a ready creature, who with great humility, and as great forwardness, visits his patrons at all hours, and meets them in all places, and has so moderate an opinion of himself, that he makes hiscourt at large. If you will not give him a great employment, he will be glad of a little one. He has fo great a deference for his benefactor's judgment, that as he thinks himself sit for any thing he can get, so he is above nothing which is offered. He is like the young Bachelor of Arts, who came to town recommended to a Chaplain's place; but none being vacant, modefly accepted that of a postillion.

We have very many conspicuous persons of this undertaking, yet modest, turn: I have a grandson who is very happy in this quality: I sent him in the time of the last peace into France. As soon as he landed at Calair, he sent me an exact account of the nature of the people, and the policies of the King, of France. I got him since chosen a member of a Corporation: The modest creature, as soon as he came into the common council, told a Senior Burgess, he was persectly out of the orders of their house. In other circumstances, he is so thoroughly modest a sellow, that he seems to pretend only to things he understands. He is a citizen only at Court, and in the city a Courtier. In a word, to speak the characteristical difference between a modest man and a modest

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fellows:

fellow; the modest man is in doubt in all his actions; a modest fellow never has a doubt from his crudle to his grave.

Nº 53. Thursday, August 11, 1709.

White's Chocolate-house, August 10.

The Civil Husband.

HE fate and character of the inconstant Ofmyn is a just excuse for the little notice taken, by his widow, of his departure out of this life, which was equally troublesome to Elmira, his faithful spouse, and to himself. That life passed between them after this manner, is the reason the town has just now received a Lady with all that gaicty, after having been a relief but three months, which other women hardly assume under fiften after fuch a disaster. Elmira is the daughter of a rich and worthy citizen, who gave her to O/myn with a. portion which might have obtained her an alliance with our noblett houses, and fixed her in the eye of the world, where her story had not been now to be related: For her good qualities had made her the object of universal esteem among the polite part of mankind, from whom the has been banished and immured until the death of her goaler. It is now full fifteen years fince that beauteous lady was given into the hands of the happy Ofmyn, who, in the terfe of all the world, received at that time a prefent more valuable than the possession of both the Indies. She was then in her early bloom, with an understanding and discretion very little inferior to the most experienced matrons. She was not beholden to the charms of her Sex, that her company was preferable to any Ofmyu could meet with abroad; for were all she said considered, without regard to her being a woman, it might fland beauty of her own Sex, with all the conversation-accomplishments of ours. But Ofmyn very soon grew surfeited with the charms of her person by possession, and of her mind by want of taste; for he was one of that loose fort of men, who have but one reason for setting any value upon the fair Sex; who confider even brides but as new women, and confequently neglect them when they ceafe to be such. All the merit of Elmira could not prevent her becoming a mere wife within few months after her nuptials; and Olmyn had so little relish for her conversation, that he complained of the advantages of it. My fpouse, said he to one of his companions, is so very difcreet, fo good, fo virtuous, and I know not what, that I think her person is rather the object of esteem than of love; and there is such a thing as a merit, which causes rather distance than passion. But there being no Medium, in the state of matrimony, their life began to take the usual gradations to become the most irksome of all Beings. They grew in the first place very complaisant; and having at heart a certain knowledge that they were indifferent to each other, apologies were made for every little circumstance which they thought betrayed their mutual coldness. This lasted but few months, when they shewed a difference of opinion in every trisle; and, as a fign of certain decay of affection, the word "per-" haps' was introduced in all their discourse. "I have " a mind to go to the Park, fays she; but perhaps, my "Dear, you will want the coach on fome other occa-" fion. He would very willingly carry her to the Play; but perhaps she had rather go to Lady Centaur's and " play at Ombre." They were both persons of good differning, and foon found that they mortally hated each other, by their manner of hiding it. Certain it is, that there are fome Genio's which are not capable of pure affection, and a man is born with talents for it as much as for poetry or any other science.

Ofmyn began too late to find the imperfection of his own heart; and used all the methods in the world to correct it, and argue himself into return of defire and passion for his wife, by the contemplation of her excellent qualities, his great obligations to her, and the high value he saw all the world except himself did put upon

her. But such is man's unhappy condition, that though the weakness of the heart has a prevailing power over the ftrength of the head, yet the strength of the head has but small force against the weakness of the heart. Ofmyn therefore struggled in vain to revive departed defire; and for that reason resolved to retire to one of his estates in the country, and pass away his hours of wedlock in the noble diversions of the field; and in the fury of a difappointed lover, made an oath to leave neither stag, fox, or hare living, during the days of his wife. Besides that country-sports would be an amusement, he hoped also, that his spouse would be half killed by the very sense of feeing this town no more, and would think her life ended as foon as she left it. He communicated his defign to Elmira, who received it, as now she did all things, like a person too unhappy to be relieved or afflicted by the circumstance of place. This unexpected refignation made Ofmyn resolve to be as obliging to her as possible; and if he could not prevail upon himself to be kind, he took a refolution at least to act fincerely, and communicate frankly to her the weakness of his temper, to excuse the indifference of his behaviour. He disposed his houshold in the way to Rutland, so as he and his lady travelled only in the coach for the conveniency of difcourfe. They had not gone many miles out of town, when Ofmya spoke to this purpose:

"My Dear, I believe I look quite as filly now I am going to tell you I do not love you, as when I first told you I did. We are now going into the country together, with only one hope for making this life agreeable, survivorship: Desire is not in our power; mine is all gone for you. What shall we do to carry it with decency to the world, and hate one another with discretion?"

The Lady answered, without the least observation on the extravagance of the speech:

"My Dear, you have lived most of your days in a Court, and I have not been wholly unacquainted with that fort of life. In Courts, you see good-will is "spoken

" fpoken with great warmth, ill-will covered with great " civility. Men are long in Civilities to those they hate, and short in expressions of kindness to those they " love. Therefore, my Dear, let us be well-bred still; " and it is no matter, as to all who fee us, whether we " love or hate: And to let you fee how much you are " beholding to me for my conduct, I have both hated " and despised you, my Dear, this half year; and yet " neither in language or behaviour has it been visible but that I loved you tenderly. Therefore, as I know " you go out of town to divert life in pursuit of beafts. " and convertation with men just above them; fo, my " Life, from this moment, I shall read all the learned " cooks who have ever writ; fludy broths, plaisters, and " conserves, until from a fine lady I become a notable " woman. We must take our minds a note or two lower, or we shall be tortured by jealousy or anger. "Thus I am resolved to kill all keen passions by em-" ploying my mind on little fubjects, and leffening the uneafinefs of my spirit; while you, my Dear, with much ale, exercise, and ill company, are so good as to endeavour to be as comtemptible, as it is necessary " for my quiet I should think you."

At Rutland they arrived, and lived with great, but secret, impatience for many successive years, until Osmyn thought of an happy expedient to give their affairs a new turn. One day he took Elmira aside, and spoke as follows:

"My Dear, you see here the air is so temperate and ferene; the rivulets, the groves, and soil, so extremely kind to Nature, that we are stronger and firmer in our health since we lest the town; so that there is no hope of a release in this place: But if you will be so kind as to go with me to my estate in the Hundreds of Essex, it is possible some kind damp may one day or other relieve us. If you will condescend to accept of this offer, I will add that whole estate to your jointure in this county."

Elmira, who was all goodness, accepted the offer, removed accordingly, and has left her spouse in that place to rest with his fathers.

This is the real figure in which Elmira ought to be beheld in this town; and not thought guilty of an Indecorum, in not professing the sense, or bearing the habit of sorrow, for one who robbed her of all the endearments of life, and gave her only common Civility, instead of complacency of manners, dignity of passion, and that constant assemblage of soft desires and affections which all feel who love, but none can express.

Will's Coffee-house, August 10.

Mr. Truman, who is a mighty admirer of Dramatic Poetry, and knows I am about a tragedy, never meets me, but he is giving admonitions and hints for my conduct. Mr. Bickerstaff, said he, I was reading last night your fecond Act you were so kind to lend me : but I find you depend mightily upon the retinue of your hero to make him magnificent. You make guards, and ushers, and courtiers, and commous, and nobles, march before; and then enters your Prince, and fays, they cannot defend him from his love. Why, prithee Isaac, who ever thought they could? Place me your loving monarch in a folitude; let him have no fense at all of his grandeur, but let it be eaten up with his passion. He must value himself as the greatest of lovers, not as the first of princes: And then let him fay a more tender thing than ever man faid before-For his feather and engle's beak are nothing at all. The man is to be expressed by his sentiments and affections, and not by his fortune or equipage. You are also to take care, that at his first entrance he fays fomething, which may give us an idea of what we are to expect in a person of his way of thinking. Shake-Spear is your pattern. In the tragedy of Cafar he introduces his Hero in his night-gown. He had at that time all the power of Rome: deposed Confuls, subordinate Generals, and captive Princes might have preceded him; but his genius was above fuch mechanic methods of shewing greatness. Therefore he rather presents that great Soul debating upon the subject of life and death with his intimate friends, without endeavouring to prepossess his audience with empty shew and pomp. When those who attend talk of him the many omens which had appeared that day, he answers:

Cowards die many times before their deaths;
The valiant never taste of death but once.
Of all the wonders that I yet have heard,
It seems to me most strange that men should fear;
Seeing that death, a necessary end,
Will come, when it will come.

When the Hero has spoken this sentiment, there is nothing that is great, which cannot be expected from one, whose first position is the contempt of death to so high a degree, as to make his Exit a thing wholly indifferent, and not a part of his care, but that of Heaven and fate.

St. James's Coffee house, August 10.

Letters from Bruffels of the fifteenth instant, N. S. say, that Major-general Ravignan returned on the eighth, with the French King's answer to the intended capitulation from the citadel of Tournay; which is, That he does not think fit to fign that capitulation, except the Allies will grant a ceffation of arms in general, during the time in which all acts of hostility were to have ceased between the citadel and the befiegers. Soon after the receipt of this news, the cannon on each fide began to play. There are two attacks against the citadel, commanded by General Lottum and General Schuylemberg, which are both carried on with great fuccess; and it is not doubted but the citadel will be in the hands of the Allies before the last day of this month. Letters from Ipres say, that on the ninth instant part of the garrison in that place had mutined in two bodies, each confifting of two hundred; who being dispersed the same day, a body of eight hundred appeared in the market-place at nine the night following, and feifed all manner of provisions, but were with much difficulty quieted. governor has not punished any of the offenders, the diffatisfaction

fatisfaction being universal in that place; and it is thought the officers foment those disorders, that the ministry may be convinced of the necessity of paying those troops, and supplying them with provisions. These advices add, that on the fourteenth the Marquis d'Este passed express through Brussels from the Duke of Savoy, with advice that the army of his Royal Highness had forced the retrenchments of the enemy in Savoy, and defeated that body of men which guarded those passes under the command of the Marquis de I houy.

Nº 54. Saturday, August 13, 1709.

White's Chocolate-house, August 12.

Of the government of Affection.

W HEN labour was pronounced to be the portion of man, that doom reached the Affections of his mind, as well as his person, the matter on which he was to feed, and all the animal and vegetable world about him. There is therefore an affiduous care and cultivation to be bestowed upon our passions and Affections; for they, as they are the excreseencies of our Souls, like our hair and beards, look horrid or becoming, as we cut or let them grow. All this grave preface is meant to affign a reason in nature for the unaccountable behaviour of Dumwir, the husband and keeper. Ten thousand follies had this unhappy man escaped, had he made a compact with himself to be upon his guard, and not permitted his vagrant eye to let in fo many different inclinations upon him, as all his days he has been perplexed with. But indeed, at prefent, he has brought himself to be confined only to one prevailing misties; between whom and his wife, Duumvir passes his hours in all the vicifitudes which attend passion and Affection,

without the intervention of reason. Laura his wife, and Phillis his mistress, are all with whom he has had, for fome months, the least amorous commerce. Duumvir has passed the noon of life; but cannot withdraw from those entertainments which are pardonable only before that flage of our Being, and which after that feafon are rather punishments than satisfactions: For palled appetite is humorous, and must be gratified with fauces rather than food. For which end Duumvir is provided with an haughty, imperious, expensive, and fantastic mistress, to whom he retires from the conversation of an affable, humble, discreet, and affectionate wife. Laura receives him after absence with an easy and unaffected complacency; but that he calls infipid: Phillis rates him for his absence, and bids him return from whence he came; this he calls spirit and fire: Laura's gentleness is thought mean; Phillis's infolence, sprightly. Were you to fee him at his own home, and his miftrefs's lodgings, to Phillis he appears an obsequious lover, to Laura an imperious master. Nay, so unjust is the taste of Duumvir, that he owns Laura has no ill quality, but that she is his wife; Phillis no good one, but that she is his mistress. And he has himself often said, were he married to any one elfe, he would rather keep Laura than any woman living; yet allows at the fame time, that Phillis, were she a woman of honour, would have been the most infipid animal breathing. The other day Laura, who has a voice like an angel, began to fing to him: Fie, Madam, he cried, we must be past all these gaieties. Phillis has a note as rude and as loud as that of a milk-maid: When she begins to warble: Well, fays he, there is fuch a pleafing simplicity in all that wench does. In a word, the affectionate part of his heart being corrupted, and his true taffe that way wholly loft, he has contracted a prejudice to all the behaviour of Laura, and a general partiality in favour of Phillis. It is not in the power of the wife to do a pleasing thing, nor in the miltress to commit one that is disagreeable. There is fomething too melancholy in the reflection on this circumstance to be the subject of raillery. He said a four thing to Laura at dinner the other day; upon which she burst into tears. What the devil, Madam,

fays he, cannot I speak in my own house? He answered Phillis a little abruptly at supper the same evening, upon which she threw his periwig into the fire. Well, faid he, thou art a brave termagant jade: Do you know, hussy, that fair wig cost forty guineas? Oh Laura! is it for this that the faithful Cromius fighed for you in vain? How is thy condition altered, fince crouds of youth hung on thy eye, and watched its glances? It is not many months fince Laura was the wonder and pride of her own Sex, as well as the defire and passion of ours. At Plays and at Balls, the just turn of her behaviour, the decency of her virgin charms, chaffised, yet added to diversions. At public devotions, her winning modesty, her refigned carriage, made virtue and religion appear with new ornaments, and in the natural apparel of fimplicity and beauty. In ordinary conversations, a sweet conformity of manners, and an humility which heightened all the complacencies of good-breeding and education, gave her more flaves than all the pride of her Sex ever made women wish for. Laura's hours are now spent in the sad reflection on her choice, and that deceitful vanity, almost inseparable from the Sex, of believing, she could reclaim one that had so often enfinared others; as it now is, it is not even in the power of Daumvir himself to do her justice: For though beauty and merit are things real and independent on taste and opinion, yet agreeableness is arbitrary, and the mistress has much the advantage of the wife. But whenever fate is so kind to her and her spouse as to end her days, with all this passion for Phillis, and indifference for Laura, he has a fecond wife in view, who may avenge the injuries done to her predecessor. Aglaura is the destined Lady, who has lived in assemblies, has ambition and play for her entertainment, and thinks of a man, not as the object of love, but the tool of her interest or pride. If ever Aglaura comes to the empire of this Inconstant, she will endear the memory of her predecessor. But in the mean time it is melancholy to consider, that the virtue of a wife is like the merit of a Poet, never justly valued until after death.

From my own Apartment, August 11.

As we have professed, that all the actions of men are our subject, the most solemn are not to be omitted, if there happen to creep into their behaviour any thing improper for such occasions. Therefore the offence mentioned in the following Epistles, though it may seem to be committed in a place sacred from observation, is such, that it is our duty to remark upon it; for though he who does it is himself only guilty of an Indecorum, he occasions a criminal levity in all others who are present at it.

Mr. BICKERSTAFF,

I T being mine, as well as the opinion of many others, that your Papers are extremely well fitted to reform " any irregular or indecent practice, I present the fol-'s lowing as one which requires your correction. My-" felf, and a great many good people who frequent the "divine Service at Saint Paul's, have been a long time " scandalized by the imprudent conduct of Stentor in " that cathedral. This Gentleman, you must know, is always very exact and zealous in his devotion, "which I believe no body blames; but then he is ac-" cuffomed to roar and bellow so terribly loud in the "Responses, that he frightens even us of the congrega-" tion who are daily used to him: And one of our petty " Canons, a punning Cambridge scholar, calls his way " of worship a Bull-offering. His harsh untunable pipe is no more fit than a raven's to join with the music of a choir; yet no body having been enough his friend, " I suppose, to inform him of it; he never fails, when " prefent, to drown the harmony of every hymn and " anthem, by an inundation of found beyond that of " the Bridge at the ebb of the tide, or the neighbour-" ing lions in the anguish of their hunger. This is a " grievance, which, to my certain knowledge, feveral " worthy people defire to fee redressed; and if by in-" ferting this epiftle in your Paper, or by representing sthe matter your own way, you can convince Stentor,

- "that discord in a choir is the same sin that schism is in the church in general, you would lay a great obliga-
- " tion upon us; and make fome atonement for certain
- " of your paragraphs, which have not been highly ap-

Sir,

St. Paul's Churchyard, Aug. 11. your most humble fervant,

Jeoffry Chanticleer.

It is wonderful there should be such a general lamentation, and the grievance so frequent, and yet the offender never know any thing of it. I have received the following Letter from my kinsman at the Heralds-office, near the same place.

Dear Cousin,

HIS Office, which has had its share in the impartial justice of your censures, demands at present your vindication of their rights and privileges. There are certain hours when our young Heralds are exercised in the faculties of making proclamation, and other vociferations, which of right belong to us only to utter: But at the same hours, Stenton in Saint Paul's church, in spite of the coaches, carts, London cries, and all other sounds between us, exalts his throat to so high a key, that the most noisy of our Order is utterly unheard. If you please to observe upon this, you will ever oblige, &c."

There have been communicated to me some other ill consequences from the same cause; as, the overturning of coaches by sudden starts of the horses as they passed that way, women pregnant frightened, and heirs to samilies lost; which are public disasters, though arising from a good intention: But it is hoped, after this admonition, that Stentor will avoid an act of so great supererogation, as singing without a voice.

But I am diverted from profecuting Stentor's reformation, by an account, that the two faithful Lovers, Lifander and Coriana, are dead; for no longer ago than the first day of the last month they swore eternal sidelity to each other, and to love until death. Ever since that time, Lifander has been twice a day at the Chocolate-house, visits in every circle, is missing four hours in sour and twenty, and will give no account of himself. These are undoubted proofs of the departure of a Lover; and consequently Coriana is also dead as a Mistress. I have written to Stentor to give this couple three calls at the church-door, which they must hear if they are living within the Bills of Mortality; and if they do not answer at that time, they are from that moment added to the number of my Defunct.

Nº 55. Tuesday, August 16, 1709.

-Paulo majora canamns. Virg. Ecl. Iv. ver. 1.

-Begin a loftier strain.

White's Chocolate-house, August 15.

WHILE others are busied in relations which concern the interests of Princes, the peace of Nations, and the revolutions of Empire; I think, though these are very great subjects, my theme of discourse is sometimes to be of matters of a yet higher consideration. The slow steps of Providence and Nature, and strange events which are brought about in an instant, are what, as they come within our view and observation, shall be given to the Public. Such things are not accompanied with show and noise, and therefore seldom draw the eyes of the unattentive part of mankind; but are very proper at once to exercise our humanity, please our imaginations, and improve our judgments. It may not therefore

therefore be unuseful to relate many circumstances, which were observable upon a late cure done upon a young Gentleman who was born blind, and on the twenty-ninth of June last received his fight at the age of twenty years, by the operation of an Oculist. This happened no farther off than Newington, and the work was

prepared for in the following manner.

The Operator, Mr. Grant, having observed the Eyes of his Patient, and convinced his friends and relations. among others the Reverend Mr. Cafwell, Minister of the place, that it was highly probable he should remove the obstacle which prevented the use of his fight; all his acquaintance, who had any regard for the young man, or curiofity to be present when one of full age and understanding received a new sense, assembled themselves on this occasion. Mr. Caswell, being a Gentleman particularly curious, defired the whole company, in case the blindness should be cured, to keep secret; and let the Patient make his own observations, without the direction of any thing he had received by his other fenfes, or the advantage of discovering his friends by their voices. Among feveral others, the mother, brethren, fisters, and a young Gentlewoman for whom he had a passion, were present. The work was performed with great skill and dexterity. When the Patient first received the dawn of light, there appeared such an ecstafy in his action, that he feemed ready to fwoon away in the furprize of joy and wonder. The Surgeon flood before him with his instruments in his hands. The young man observed him from head to foot; after which he surveyed himself as carefully, and seemed to compare him to himfelf; and observing both their hands, seemed to think they were exactly alike, except the instruments, which he took for parts of his hands. When he had continued in this amazement some time, his mother could not longer bear the agitations of so many pathons as thronged upon her; but fell upon his neck, crying out, My fun! my fon! The youth knew her voice, and could speak no more than, Oh me! are you my mother? and fainted. The whole room, you will eafily conceive, were very affectionately employed in recovering him; but above all, the young Gentlewoman who loved him, and whom he

he loved, shrieked in the loudest manner. That voice feemed to have a sudden effect upon him as he recovered. and he shewed a double curiosity in observing her as she spoke and called to him; until at last he broke out. What has been done to me? whither am I carried? Is all this about me, the thing I have heard fo often of? is this the light? is this feeing? Were you always thus happy, when you faid, you were glad to fee each other? Where is Tom, who used to lead me? But I could now. methinks, go any where without him. He offered to move, but seemed afraid of every thing around him. When they faw his difficulty, they told him, until he became better acquainted with his new being, he must let the fervant still lead him. The boy was called for. and presented to him. Mr. Caswell asked him, what fort of thing he took Tom to be before he had feen him. He answered, he believed there was not so much of him as of himself; but he fancied him the same fort of creature. The noise of this sudden change made all the neighbourhood throng to the place where he was. he faw the croud thickening, he defired Mr. Cafwell. to tell him how many there were in all to be feen. Gentleman, smiling, answered him, that it would be very proper for him to return to his late condition, and fuffer his Eyes to be covered, until they had received ftrength; for he might remember well enough, that by degrees he had from little and little come to the strength he had at present in his ability of walking and moving; and that it was the same thing with his Eyes, which, he faid, would lofe the power of continuing to him that wonderful transport he was now in, except he would be contented to lay aside the use of them, until they were strong enough to bear the light without so much feeling as, he knew, he underwent at prefent. With much reluctance he was prevailed upon to have his Eves bound : in which condition they kept him in a dark room, until it was proper to let the organ receive its objects without farther precaution. During the time of this darkness, he bewailed himself in the most distressed macnet, and accused all his friends, complaining that some it is a tion had been wrought upon him, and teme thange magic used to deceive him into an opinion, that he had Vol. II. eroyed enjoyed what they called Sight. He added, that the impressions then let in upon his Soul would certainly distract him, if he were not so at that present. At another time, he would strive to name the persons he had seen among the croud after he was couched, and would pretend to speak, in perplexed terms of his own making, of what he in that short time observed. But on the sixth instant it was thought sit to unbind his head, and the young woman whom he loved was instructed to open his Eyes accordingly; as well to endear herself to him by such a circumstance, as to moderate his ecstasses by the persuasion of a voice, which had so much power over him as hers ever had. When this beloved young woman began to take off the binding of his Eyes, she talked to him as follows:

" Mr. William, I am now taking the binding off. " though, when I consider what I am doing, I tremble with the apprehension, that (though I have from my e very childhood loved you, dark as you were, and " though you had conceived fo ftrong a love for me, " yet) you will find there is fuch a thing as Beauty, " which may ensnare you into a thousand passions of which you are now innocent, and take you from me of for ever. But, before I put myfelf to that hazard. et tell me in what manner that love, you always pro-" fessed to me, entered into your heart; for its usual " admission is at the Eyes." The young man answered, " Dear Lidia, If I am " to lose by fight the foft pantings which I have always " felt when I heard your voice; if I am no more to dif-" tinguish the step of her I love when she approaches me, but to change that sweet and frequent pleasure " for fuch an amazement as I knew the little time I " lately Saw; or if I am to have any thing befides, which may take from me the sense I have of what ap-" peared most pleasing to me at that time, which apparition it seems was you; pull out these Eves, before .. they lead me to be ungrateful to you, or undo myfelf. . I wished for them but to see you; pull them out, if " they are to make me forget you."

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Lidia was extremely fatisfied with these assurances; and pleased herself with playing with his perplexities. In all his talk to her, he shewed but very faint ideas of any thing which had not been received at the ears; and closed his protestation to her, by saying, that if he were to see Valentia and Barcelona, whom he supposed the most esteemed of all women, by the quarrel there was about them, he would never like any but Lidia.

St. James's Coffee-house, August 15.

We have repeated advices of the entire defeat of the Swedish army near Pultowa on the twenty-seventh of June, O. S. and Letters from Berlin give the following account of the remains of the Swedish army fince the battle: Prince Menzikoff, being ordered to pursue the victory, came up with the Savedish army, which was left to the command of General Lewenbaupt, on the thirtieth of June, O. S. on the banks of the Borifthenes; whereupon he fent General Lewenhaupt a summons to submit himself to his present fortune: Lewenhaupt immediately dispatched three General officers to that Prince, to treat about a capitulation; but the Savedes, though they confifted of fifteen thousand men, were in so great want of provision and ammunition, that they were obliged to furrender themselves at discretion. His Czarish Majesty dispatched an express to General Galac with an account of these particulars, and also with instructions to fend out detachments of his cavalry to prevent the King of Sweden's joining his army in Poland. That Prince made his escape with a small party by swimming over the Borificenes; and it was thought, he defigned to retire into Poland by the way of Volkinia. Advices from Bern of the eleventh inflant fay, that the general Diet of the Helvetic body held at Baden concluded on the fixth; but the Deputies of the Six Cantons, who are deputed to determine the affair of Tockenburg, continue their application to that bufinefs, notwithflanding some new difficulties started by the Abbot of Saint Gall. Letters from Geneva of the ninth fay, that the Duke of Savry's cavalry had joined Count Thaun, as had also two imperial regiments of Hussars; and that his Royal Highnes's C 2 army

army was disposed in the following manner: The troops under the command of Count Thaun are extended from Constans to Saint Peter D' Albigni. Small parties are left in feveral posts from thence to Little St. Bernard, to preferve the communication with Piedmont by the vailey of Aofta. Some forces are also posted at Taloir, and in the cattle of Doin, on each fide of the lake of Anneci. General Rhebinder is encamped in the valley of Oulx with ten thousand foot, and some detachments of horse: His troops are extended from Exilles to mount Genevre, fo that he may easily penetrate into Dauphine on the least motion of the enemy; but the Duke of Berwick takes all necessary precautions to prevent such an enterprize. That General's head quarters are at Francin; and he hath disposed his army in several parties, to preserve a communication with the Maurienne and Briancon. He hath no provisions for his army but from Savoy; Provence and Dauphine being unable to supply him with necessaries. He left two regiments of dragoons at Annen, who suffered very much in the late action at Tessons. where they loft fifteen hundred, who were killed on the foot, four standards, and three hundred prisoners, among whom were forty Officers. The last Letters from the Duke of Marlborough's camp at Orchies of the nineteenth instant advise, that Monsieur Rawignan being returned from the French Court with an account that the King of France refused to ratify the capitulation for the surrender of the citadel of Tournay, the approaches have been carried on with great vigour and fuccess: Our miners have discovered several of the enemy's mines, who have forung divers others, which did little execution; but for the better fecurity of the troops, both affaults are carried on by the cautious way of fapping. On the eighteenth, the Confederate army made a general forage without any lofs. Marshal Villars continues in his former camp, and applies himself with great diligence in casting up new lines behind the old on the Scarp. The Duke of Marl-Forcugh and Prince Eugene defigned to begin a general review of the army on the twentieth.

Nº 56. Thursday, August 18, 1709.

Quicquid agunt homines - noftri farrago libelli. luv. Sat. 1. v. 85

Whatever good is done, whatever ill-By human kind, shall this collection fill.

White's Chocolate-house, August 17.

THERE is a young foreigner committed to m: care, who puzzles me extremely in the questions he asks about the persons of figure we meet in public places. He has but very little of our language, and therefore I am mightily at a loft to express to him things, for which they have no word in that Tongue to which he was born. It has been often my answer, upon his affeing, who such a fine Gentleman is? That he is what we call a Sharper, and he wants my explication. I thought it would be very unjust to tell him, he is the same the French call Coquin; the Latins, Nebule; or the Greeks, Paonal: For as custom is the most powerful of all laws, and that the order of men, we call Sharpers, are received amongst us, not only with permission, but favour, I thought it unjust to use them like persons upon no establishment. Besides that, it would be an unpardonable dishonour to our country, to let him leave us with an opinion, that our Nobility and Gentry keep company with common thieves and cheats: I told him, they were a fort of tame Hussars, that were allowed in our cities, like the wild ones in our camp; who had all the privileges belonging to us, but at the fame time were not tied to our discipline or laws. Aletheus, who is a Gentleman of too much virtue for the age he lives in, would not let this matter be thus palliated; but told my pupil, that he was to understand that distinction,

quality, merit, and industry, were laid afide among us by the incuttions of thefe civil hoffars; who had got fo much countenance, that the breeding and fashion of the age turned their way to the ruin of order and economy in all places where they are admitted. But Septremus, who never falls into heat upon any subject, but applies proper language, temper, and skill, with which the there in debate is to be treated, told the youth, that Gentleman had spoken nothing but what was literally true; but fell upon it with too much earnestness to give a true idea of that fort of people he was declaiming against, or to remedy the evil which he bewailed: For the acceptance of these men being an ill which hath crept into the conversation-part of our lives, and net into our constitution itself, it must be corrected where it began; and confequently is to be amended only by bringing raillery and derision upon the persons who are guilty, or those who converte with them. For the Sharreis, continued he, at prefent are not as fernerly, ur. der the acceptation of pick-pockets; but me by cultoraerected into a real and venerable body of men, and have fubdued us to fo very particular a deference to then, that though they are known to be men without honour or conscience, no demand is called a debt of honour so indisputably as theirs. You may lose your honcur to them, but they lay none against you: As the priesthood in Roman catholic countries can purchase what they please for the church, but they can alienate nothing from it. It is from this toleration, that Sharpers are to be found among all forts of affemblies and companies; and every talent amongst men is made use of by some one or other of the fociety for the good of their common cause: So that an unexperienced young Gentleman is as often ensnared by his understanding as his folly: For who could be unmoved, to hear the eloquent Dromio explain the conflitution, talk in the key of Cato, with the feverity of one of the antient Sages, and debate the greatest question of state in a common Chocolate or Coffee-house? Who could, I fay, hear this generous declamator, without being fired at his noble zeal, and becoming his profelled follower, if he might be admitted? Monoculus's gravity would be no less inviting to a beginner in conversation:

versation; and the snare of his elequence would equally catch one who had never feen an old Gentleman fo very wife, and yet so little severe. Many other instances of extraordinary men among the brotherhood might be produced; but every man, who knows the town, can hipply himself with such examples without their being named. Will Vafer, who is skilful at finding out the ridiculous fide of a thing, and placing it in a new and proper light, though he very feldom talks, thought fit to enter into this subject. He has lately loft certain loofe fums, which half the income of his estate will bring in within feven years: Befides which, he propofes to marry, to fet all right. He was therefore indolent enough to speak of this matter with great impartiality. "When I look around me, faid this easy Gentleman, " and confider in a just balance us Bubbles, elder bro-" thers, whose support our dull fathers contrived to de-" pend upon certain acres, with the rooks, whose an-" ceitors left them the wide world; I cannot but admire " their fraternity, and contemn my own. Is not Jack " Herday much to be preferred to the Knight he has " bubbled? Jack has his equipage, his wenches, and " his followers: The Knight so far from a retinue, that " he is almost one of Jack's. However, he is gav, you " fee, still; a florid out-fide --- His habit speaks the " man-And fince he must unbutton, he would not be " reduced outwardly, but is flripped to his upper coat. " But though I have great temptation to it, I will not " at this time give the history of the losing fide; but " speak the effects of my thoughts, fince the loss of my " money, upon the gaining people. This ill fortune " makes most men contemplative and given to reading; " at least it has happened so to me; and the rise and " fall of the family of Sharpers in all ages has been my " contemplation."

I find, all times have had of this people: Homer, in his excellent heroic Poem, calls them Myrmidons, who were a body that kept among themselves, and had nothing to lose; therefore never spared either Greek or Trojan, when they sell in their way, upon a party. But there is a memorable verse, which gives us an account

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of what broke that whole body, and made both Greeks and Trojans masters of the secret of their warfare and plunder. There is nothing so pedantic as many quotations; therefore I shall inform you only, that in this battalion there were two officers, called Thersites and Pandarus: They were both less renowned for their beauty than their wit; but each had this particular happiness, that they were plunged over head and ears in the fame water, which made Achilles invulnerable; and had ever after certain gifts, which the rest of the world were never to enjoy. Among others, they were never to know they were the most dreadful to the fight of all mortals, never to be diffident of their own abilities, never to blath, or ever to be wounded but by each other. Though some bifterious say, gaming began among the Lydians to divert hunger, I could cite many authorities to prove it had its rife at the fiege of Trey; and that Ulifies won the sevenfold shield at Hazard. But be that as it may, the ruin of the corps of the Myrmidons proceeded from a breach between Therfites and Pandarus. The first of these was leader of a squadron, wherein the latter was but a private man; but having all the good qualities necessary for a partizan, he was the favourite of his officer. But the whole history of the feveral changes in the order of Sharpers, from those Myrmidons to our modern men of address and plunder, will require that we confult some antient manuscripts. As we make these enquiries, we shall diurnally communicate them to the Public, that the Knights of the Industry may be better understood by the good people of England. These fort of men, in some ages, were sycophants and flatterers only, and were endued with arts of life to capacitate them for the conversation of the rich and great; but now the Bubble courts the impostor, and pretends at the utmost to be but his equal. To clear up the reasons and causes in such revolutions, and the different conduct between fools and cheats, shall be one of our labours for the good of this kingdom. How therefore pimps, footmen, fiddlers, and lacqueys, are elevated into companions in this present age, shall be accounted for from the influence of the planet Mercury on this island; the alcen15

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dency of which Sharper over Sol, who is a patron of the Muses and all honest professions, has been noted by the learned Job Gadbury to be the cause, "that cunning and trick are more esteemed than art and science." It must be allowed also, to the memory of Mr. Partridge, late of Cecil-street in the Strand, that in his answer to an horary question, At what hour of the night to set a foxtrap in June 1705? he has largely discussed, under the character of Reynard, the manner of surprizing all Sharpers as well as him. But of these great points, after more mature deliberation.

St. James's Coffee house, August 17.

To Isaac Bickerstaff, Efquire.

SIR,

" E have nothing at present new, but that we understand by some Owlers, old people die in " France. Letters from Paris of the tenth instant, N. S. " fav, that Monfieur d'Andre, Marquis d'Oraijon, died " at eighty-five: Monfieur Brumars, at one hundred " and two years, died for love of his wife who was " ninety-two at her death, after seventy years cohabita-" tion. Nicholas de Boutheiller, parish-preacher of Safe-" ville, being a bachelor, held out to one hundred and " fixteen. Dame Claude de Maffy, reliet of Monfieur " Peter de Monceaux, Grand Audiencer of France, died " on the feventh instant, aged one hundred and seven. " Letters of the feventeenth fay, Monfieur Corolley de " Lamoignon died on the seventh inflant, a person of " great piety and virtue; but having died young, his " age is concealed for reasons of state. On the lifteenth " his Most Christian Majesty, attended by the Dauphin, " the Duke of Burgundy, the Duke and Dutchels of "Berry, affifted at the procession which he yearly per-" forms in memory of a vow made by Leavis the " Thirteenth, in 1638: For which act of piety, his " Majetty received Absolution of his Consessor, for the C 5 breach " breach of all inconvenient vows made by himself. I am.

Sir,

your most humble servant,

Hamplerey Kidney.

From my own Apartment, August 17.

I am to acknowledge feveral Letters which I have lately received; among others, one subscribed Philan-thropos, another Emilia, both which shall be honoured. I have a third from an Officer in the army, wherein he desires I would do justice to the many gallant actions which have been done by men of private characters, or Officers of lower stations, during this long war; that their families may have the pleasure of seeing we lived in an age, wherein men of all orders had their proper share in same and glory. There is nothing I should undertake with greater pleasure than matters of this kind; If therefore they, who are acquainted with such facts, would please to communicate them, by Letters directed to me at Mr. Manghene's, no pains should be spared to put them in a proper and distinguishing light.

[&]quot;This is to admonish Stentor, that it was not admiration of his voice, but my publication of it, which

[&]quot; has lately increased the number of his hearers."

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Nº 57. Saturday, August 20, 1709.

Quicquid agunt homines nostri farrago libelli.
Juv. Sat. 1. ver. 85.

Whatever good is done, whatever ill——By human kind, shall this collection fill.

Will's Coffee-house, August 19.

Was this evening representing a complaint sent me out of the country from Emilia. She says, her neighbours there have fo little sense of what a refined Lady of the town is, that she, who was a celebrated wit in London, is in that dall part of the world in so little effeem, that they call her in their base style a Tongue-Pad Old True Penny bid me advise her to keep her wit until the comes to town again, and admonish her, that both wit and breeding are local; for a fine Court-lady is as aukward among country house-wives, as one of them would appear in a drawing-room. It is therefore the most useful knowledge one can attain at, to understand among what fort of men we make the best figure; for if there be a place where the beauteous and accomplished Emilia is unacceptable, it is certainly a vain endeavour to attempt pleasing in all conversations. Here is Will Ubi, who is so thirtly after the reputation of a companion, that his company is for any body that will accept of it; and for want of knowing whom to choose for himfelf, is never chosen by others. There is a certain chaftity of behaviour which makes a man defirable, and which if he transgresses, his wit will have the same fate with Delia's beauty, which no one regards, because all know it is within their power. The best course Emilia can take is, to have less humility; for if she could have as good an opinion of herself for having every quality, as some of her neighbours have of themselves with one, she would inspire even them with a sense of her merit, and make that carriage, which is now the subject of their aerision, the sole object of their imitation. Until she has arrived at this value of herself, she must be contented with the sate of that uncommon escature, a Woman too humble.

White's Chocolate-house, August 19.

Since my last, I have received a letter from Tom Trump, to defire that I would do the fraternity of gamesters the justice to own, that there are notorious Sharpers, who are not of their class. Among others, he presented me with the picture of Harry Coppersmith, in little, who, he fays, is at this day worth half a Plumb, by means much more indirect than by false dice. I must confess, there appeared some reason in what he afferted; and he met me fince, and accosted me in the following manner: "It " is wonderful to me, Mr. Bickerstaff, that you can pre-" tend to be a man of penetration, and fall upon us " Knights of the Industry as the wickedest of mortals, " when there are so many, who live in the constant " practice of baser methods, unobserved. You cannot, " though you know the flory of myfelf and the North " Briton, but allow I am an honester man than Will " Coppersmith, for all his great credit among the Lom-" bards. I get my money by mens follies, and he gets " his by their diffresses. The declining merchant com-" municates his griefs to him, and he augments them by extortion. If therefore regard is to be had to the or merit of the persons we injure, who is the more blameable, he that oppresses an unhappy man, or he 46 that cheats a foolish one? All mankind are indifferently liable to adverse strokes of fortune; and he who 46 adds to them, when he might relieve them, is certainly " a worse subject, than he who unburdens a man whose or prosperity is unwieldy to him. Besides all which, he 46 that borrows of Coppersmith does it out of necessity; he that plays with me does it out of choice."

I allowed Trump there are men as bad as himself, which is the height of his pretensions: and must confess, that Coppersmith is the most wicked and impudent of all Sharpers: A creature that cheats with credit, and is a robber in the habit of a friend. The contemplation of this worthy person made me restect on the wonderful succeises, I have observed men of the meanest capacities meet with in the world, and recollect an observation I once heard a sage man make; which was, That he had observed, that in some professions, the lower the understanding, the greater the capacity. I remember, he instanced that of a banker, and said, that the sewe appetites, passions, and ideas a man had, he was the better for his business.

There is little Sir Triffram, without connexion in his fpeech, or fo much as common fense, has arrived by his own natural parts at one of the greatest estates amongst us. But honeit Sir Triftram knows himself to be but a repository for cash: He is just such an utenfil as his iron cheft, and may rather be faid to hold money, than poffefs it. There is nothing fo pleatant as to be in the conversation of these wealthy proficients. I had lately the honour to drink half a pint with Sir Triftram, Harry Coppersmith, and Giles Twospoes. These wags give one another credit in discourse, according to their purses; they jest by the pound, and nake answers as they honour bills. Without vanity, I thought myfelf the prettieft fellow of the company; but I had no manner of power over one muscle in their faces, though they smerked at every word spoken by each other. Sir Triffram called for a pipe of tobacco; and telling us tobacco was a Potburb, bid the drawer bring him the other half pint. Twelfer laughed at the Knight's wit without moderation; I took the liberty to fay, it was but a pun. A pun! fays Connermith; you would be a better man by ten thousand pounds if you could pun like Sir Triffram. With that they all burit out together. The queer curs maintained this flyle of dialogue until we had drank our quarts a piece by half-pints. All I could bring away with me is, that Tavespace is not worth twenty thousand pounds; for his mirth, though he was as infipid as either of of the others, had no more effect upon the company, than if he had been a bankrupt.

From my own Apartment, August 19.

I have heard, it has been advised by a Diocesan to his inserior clergy, that, instead of broaching opinions of their own, and uttering doctrines which may lead themselves and hearers into error, they would read some of the most celebrated sermons, printed by others, for the instruction of their congregations. In imitation of such preachers at second-hand, I shall transcribe from Bruyere one of the most elegant pieces of raillery and satire which I have ever read. He describes the French, as if speaking of a people not yet discovered, in the air and style of a traveller.

" I have heard talk of a country where the old men " are gallant, polite, and civil: The young men, on " the contrary, stubborn, wild, without either manners or civility. They are free from passion for women at " that age when in other countries they begin to feel " it; and prefer beafts, victuals, and ridiculous amours before them. Amongst these people, he is sober who is never drunk with any thing but wine; the too fre-" quent use of it having rendered it flat and insipid to "them: They endeavour by brandy, and other strong " liquors, to quicken their taste, already extinguished, " and want nothing to complete their debauches, but " to drink Aqua-fortis. The women of that country " hasten the decay of their beauty, by their artifices to " preferve it: They paint their cheeks, eyebrows, and " thoulders, which they lay open, together with their " breafts, arms, and ears, as if they were afraid to " hide those places which they think will please, and " never think they shew enough of them. The phy-" fiognomies of the people of that country are not at " all neat, but confused and embarrassed with a bundle of strange hair, which they prefer before their natural: With this they weave something to cover their heads, which descends down half way their bodies, hides 65 their features, and hinders you from knowing men " by their faces. This nation has, besides this, their " God and their King. The Grandees go every day. " at a certain hour, to a temple they call a Church : " At the upper end of that temple there stands an altar " consecrated to their God, where the Priest celebrates " fome mysteries which they call holy, facred, and tre-" mendous. The great men make a vast circle at the " foot of the altar, standing with their backs to the " Priefts and the holy mysteries, and their faces erected " towards their King, who is feen on his knees upon " a throne, and to whom they feem to direct the defires " of their hearts, and all their devotion. However, in "this custom there is to be remarked a fort of subordi-" nation; for the people appear adoring their Prince, " and their Prince adoring God. The inhabitants of " this region call it -- It is from forty-eight degrees of " Latitude, and more than eleven hundred leagues by " fea, from the Iroquois and Hurons."

Letters from Hampstead say, there is a coxcomb arrived there, of a kind which is utterly new. The fellow has courage, which he takes himself to be obliged to give proofs of every hour he lives. He is ever fighting with the men, and contradicting the women. A Lady, who sent him to me, superscribed him with this description out of Suckling;

I am a man of war and might,
And know thus much that I can fight,
Whether I am i' th' wrong or right,
Devoutly.

No woman under heaven I fear, New oaths I can exactly fwear; And forty healths my brain will bear, Most stoutly.

Nº 58. Tuelday, August 23, 1709.

White's Chocolate house, August 22.

POOR Cynthio, who does me the honour to talk to me now and then very freely of his most fecret thoughts, and tells me his most private frailties, owned to me, that though he is in his very prime of life, Love had killed all his desires, and, he was now as much to be trusted with a fine Lady, as if he were eighty. That one passion for Clarissa has taken up, said he, my whole Soul; and all my idle slames are extinguished, as you may observe, ordinary fires are often put out by the sunshine.

This was a declaration not to be made but upon the highest opinion of a man's fincerity; yet as much a subject of raillery as such a speech would be, it is certain, that Chassity is a nobler quality, and as much to be valued in men as in women. The mighty Scipio, "who, as Bluffe says in the Comedy, was a Pretty Fellow in his time," was of this mind, and is celebrated for it by an Author of good sense. When he lived, wit, and humour, and raillery, and public success, were at as high a pitch at Kone, as at present in England; yet, I believe, there was no man in those days thought that General at all ridiculous in his behaviour in the following account of him.

Scipio, at four and twenty years of age, had obtained a great victory; and a multitude of prisoners of each Sex, and all conditions, fell into his possession; among others, an agreeable virgin in her early bloom and beauty. He had too sensible a spirit to see the most lovely of all objects without being moved with passion: Besides which, there was no obligation of honour or virtue to restrain his desires towards one who was his by the fortune of war. But a noble indignation, and a sudden some,

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which appeared in her countenance, when a conqueror cast his eyes upon her, raised his curiosity to know her flory. He was informed, that the was a Lady of the highest condition in that country, and contracted to Indibilis, a man of Merit and Quality. The generous Roman foon placed himself in the condition of that unhappy man, who was to lofe fo charming a bride; and though a Youth, a Bachelor, a Lover, and a Conqueror, immediately refolved to refign all the invitations of his paffion, and the rights of his power, to reflare her to her destined husband. With this purpose he commanded her parents and relations, as well as her husband, to attend him at an appointed time. When they met, and were waiting for the General, my Author frames to himfe f the different concern of an unhappy Father, a despairing Lover, and a tender Mether, in the feveral perfons who were so related to the captive. But for fear of injuring the delicate circumstances with an old translation, I shall proceed to tell you, that Scipio appears to them, and leads in his prisoner into their presence. The Romans, as noble as they were, feemed to allow themselves a little too much triumph over the conquered; therefore, as Scipio approached, they all threw themselves on their knees except the Lover of the Lady: But Scipio observing in him a manly fullenness, was the more inclined to favour him, and spoke to him in these words:

"It is not the manner of the Romans to use all the power they juilly may: We fight not to ravage countries, or break through the ties of humanity; I am acquainted with your worth, and your interest in this Lady: Fortune has made me your master; but I desire to be your friend. This is your wise; take her, and may the gods bless you with her. But far be it from Scipio to purchase a loose and momentary pleasure at the rate of making an honest man unhappy."

Indibilis's heart was too full to make him any answer; but he threw himself at the feet of the General, and wept aloud. The captive Lady fell into the same possure and they both remained so, until the father burst into

the following words: "Oh divine Scipio! the gods have "given you more than human virtue. Oh glorious "leader! oh wondrous youth! does not that obliged virgin give you, while she prays to the gods for your prosperity, and thinks you sent down from them, raptures, above all the transports which you could have reaped from the possession of her injured person?" The temperate Scipio answered him without much emotion, and saying, "Father, be a friend to Rome," retired. An immense sum was offered as her ransom, but he fent it to her husband, and smiling, said, this is a trisse after what I have given him already; but let Indibilis know, that Chastity at my age is a much more difficult virtue to practise than generosity.

I observed, Cynthio was very much taken with my narrative; but told me, this was a virtue that would bear but a very inconsiderable figure in our days. However, I took the liberty to say, that we ought not to lose our ideas of things, though we had debauched our true relish in our practice. For after we have done laughing, solid virtue will keep its place in mens opinions: And though custom made it not so scandalous as it ought to be, to ensure innocent women, and triumph in the salshood; such actions, as we have here related, must be accounted true gallantry, and rise higher in our esteem, the farther

they are removed from our imitation.

Will's Coffee-house, August 22.

A man would be apt to think, in this laughing town, that it were impossible a thing so exploded as speaking hard words, should be practised by any one that had ever seen good company; but, as if there were a standard in our minds as well as bodies, you see very many just where they were twenty years ago, and more they cannot, will not arrive at. Were it not thus, the noble Martius would not be the only man in England whom no body can understand, though he talks more than any man else.

Will Dachle the epigrammatist, Jack Comma the grammatian, Nick Crosse-grain who writes anagrams, and my-felf, made a pretty company at a corner of this room;

and entered very peaceably upon a subject fit enough for us, which was, the examination of the force of the particle For, when Martius joined us. He, being well known to us all, asked what we were upon? For he had a mind to confummate the happiness of the day, which had been spent among the stars of the first magnitude, among the men of letters; and therefore, to put a period to it, as he had commenced it, he should be glad to be allowed to participate of the pleasure of our society. I told him the subject. Faith, Gentlemen, said Martius, your subject is humble; and if you would give me leave to elevate the convertation, I should humbly offer, that you would enlarge your enquiries to the word For-asmuch; for though I take it, faid he, to be but one word, yet the particle Much implying quantity, the particle As fimilitude, it will be greater, and more like ourselves, to treat of For-as-much. Jack Comma is always ferious, and answered; "Martius, I must take " the liberty to fay, that you have fallen into all this " error and profuse manner of speech by a certain hurry " in your imagination, for want of being more exact in " the knowledge of the parts of speech; and it is so " with all men who have not well studied the particle " For. You have spoken For without making any in-" ference, which is the great use of that particle. "There is no manner of force in your observation of " quantity and fimilitude in the fyllables As and Much. " But it is ever the fault of men of great wit to be in-" correct; which evil they run into by an indifcreet use " of the word For. Confider all the books of contro-" verfy which have been written, and I will engage " you will observe, that all the debate lies in this point, "Whether they brought in For in a just manner; or " forced it in for their own use, rather than as under-" standing the use of the word itself? There is nothing " like familiar inflances: You have heard the flory of " the Irishman, who reading, " Money for live hair," " took a lodging, and expected to be paid for living at " that house. If this man had known, For was in that " place of a quite different fignification from the parti-" cle To, he could not have fallen into the midake of

" taking Live for what the Latins call Vivere, or rather " Habitare."

Martius fremed at a loss; and admiring his profound learning, wished he had been bred a scholar, for he did not take the scope of his discourse. This wife debate, of which we had much more, made me reflect upon the difference of their capacities, and wonder that there could be as it were a diversity in mens genius for nonfense; that one should ! luster, while another crept, in abfardities. Martius moves like a blind man, lifting his las higher than the ordinary war of flepping; and Comma, like one who is only thort fighted, picking his way when he should be marching on. Want of learning makes Martius a brifk entertaining fool, and gives himself a full so pe; but that which Comma has, and calls learning, makes him difficient, and curb his natural misunderstanding to the great loss of the men of raillery. This conversation confirmed me in the opinion, that learning usually does but improve in us what Nature endowed us with. He that wants good fente is unhappy in having learning, for he has thereby only more ways of empofing himfelf; and he that has fenfe knows that learning is not knowledge, but rather the art of using it.

St. James's Coffee house, August 22.

W we undoubted intelligence of the defeat of the King of Sweden; and that Prince, who for some years ha he cred like an approaching tempest, and was led dup at by all the nations of Europe, which feemed to expect their fate according to the course he should take, is now, in all probability, an unhappy exile, without the common necessaries of life. His Czarish Majesty treats his prisoners with great gallantry and distinction. Count Rhensfeildt has had particular marks of his Majesty's esteem, for his merit and services to his Master; but Count Piper, whom his Majesty believes author of the most violent councils into which his Prince entered, is difarmed, and entertained accordingly. That decifive battle was ended at nine in the morning; and all the Swedish Generals dined with the Czar that very day, and received affurances, that they should find Mulcory Mulcory was not unacquainted with the laws of honour and humanity.

N° 59. Thursday, August 25, 1709.

White's Chocolate-house, August 24.

A SOP has gained to himself an immortal renown for figuring the manners, defires, passions, and interests of men, by fables of beafts and birds. I shall. in my future accounts of our modern Heroes and Wits, vulgarly called Sharpers, imitate the method of that delightful moralist; and think, I cannot represent those Worthies more naturally than under the shadow of a pack of Dogs; for this fet of men are like them, made up of finders, lurchers, and fetters. Some fearch for the prey, others pursue, others take it; and if it be worth it, they all come in at the death, and worry the carcals. It would require a most exact knowledge of the field and the harbours where the deer lie, to recount all the revolutions in the chace.

But I am diverted from the train of my discourse of the fraternity about this town by Letters from Hampstead, which give me an account, there is a late institution there, under the name of a Raffling-shop; which is, it feems, fecretly supported by a person who is a deep practitioner in the law, and cut of tenderness of conscience has, under the name of his maid Sifly, fet up this easier way of conveyancing and alienating estates from one family to another. He is so far from having an intelligence with the rest of the fraternity, that all the humbler cheats, who appear there, are out-faced by the partners in the bank, and driven off by the reflection of fuperior brass. This notice is given to all the filly faces that pass that way, that they may not be decoyed in by the foft allurement of a fine Lady, who is the fign to

the pageantry. And at the same time Signior Harvksly, who is the patron of the houshold, is defired to leave off this interloping trade, or admit, as he ought to do, the Knights of the Industry to their share in the spoil. But this little matter is only by way of digression. Therefore to return to our Worthies.

The prefent race of terriers and hounds, would flarve, were it not for the inchanted Asteon, who has kept the whole pack for many fuccessions of hunting-seasons. Action has long tracts of rich foil; but had the misfortune in his youth to fall under the power of forcery, and has been ever fince, some parts of the year, a deer, and in some parts a man. While he is a man, such is the force of Magic, he no fooner grows to fuch a bulk and fatness, but he is again turned into a deer, and hunted until he is lean; upon which he returns to his human shape. Many arts have been tried, and many resolutions taken by Actaon himself, to follow such methods as would break the inchantment; but all have hitherto proved ineffectual. I have therefore, by midnight watchings and much care, found out, that there is no way to fave him from the jaws of his hounds, but to defiroy the pack, which, by aftrological prescience, I find I am destined to perform. For which end I have fent out my Familiar, to bring me a lift of all the places where they are harboured, that I may know where to found my horn, and bring them together, and take an account of their haugts and their marks, against another opportunity.

Will's Coffee-houte, August 24.

The Author of the ensuing Letter, by his name, and the quotations he makes from the ancients, feems a fort of spy from the old world, whom we moderns ought to be careful of offending; therefore I must be free, and own it a fair hit where he takes me, rather than disablige him.

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SIR,

TTAVING a peculiar humour of defiring to be fomewhat the better or wifer for what I read, " I am always uneafy when, in any profound Writer, " for I read no others, I happen to meet with what I " cannot understand. When this falls out, it is a great " grievance to me that I am not able to confult the Au-" thor himself about his meaning, for commentators " are a fect that has little share in my esteem: Your " elaborate writings have, among many others, this ad-" vantage, that their author is still alive, and ready, as " his extensive charity makes us expect, to explain " whatever may be found in them too sublime for vul-" gar understandings. This, Sir, makes me presume " to ask you, how the Hampstead Hero's character could " be perfectly new when the last Letters came away, " and yet Sir John Suckling so well acquainted with it " fixty years ago? I hope, Sir, you will not take this " amis: I can assure you, I have a profound respect " for you, which makes me write this, with the same " disposition with which Longinus bids us read Homer " and Plato. When in reading, fays he, any of those " celebrated Authors, we meet with a passage to which " we cannot well reconcile our reasons, we ought firmly " to believe, that were those great Wits present to an-" fwer for themselves, we should to our wonder be " convinced, that we only are guilty of the mistakes " we before attributed to them. If you think fit to " remove the scruple that now torments me, it will be " an encouragement to me to fettle a frequent correspon-" dence with you; feveral things falling in my way " which would not, perhaps, be altogether foreign to " your purpose, and whereon your thoughts would be " very acceptable to

your most humble servant,

Obadiah Greenhat.

I own this is clean, and Mr. Greenbat has convinced me that I have writ nonfense, yet am I not at all offended at him.

Scimus, & hanc veniam petimusque; damusque; vicissim. Hor. Ars Poet. ver. 11.

I own th' indulgence—Such I give and take.

FRANCIS.

This is the true art of raillery, when a man turns another into ridicule, and shews at the same time he is in good humour, and not urged on by malice against the person he rallies. Obadiab Greenbat has hit this very well: For to make an apology to Isaac Bickerstaff, an unknown Student and horary Historian, as well as Astrologer, and with a grave face to say, he speaks of him by the same rules with which he would treat Homer or Plato, is to place him in company where he cannot expect to make a sigure; and makes him slatter himself, that it is only being named with them which renders him most ridiculous.

I have not known, and I am now past my grand climacteric, being fixty-four years of age, according to my way of life; or rather, if you will allow punning in an old Gentleman, according to my way of pattime; I fay, as old as I am, I have not been acquainted with many of the Greenhats, There is indeed one Zedekiah Greenhat, who is lucky also in his way. He has a very agreeable manner; for when he has a mind thoroughly to correct a man, he never takes from him any thing, but he allow him femething for it; or elfe he blames him for things wherein he is not defective, as well as for matters wherein he is. This makes a weak man believe he is in jest in the whole. The other day he told Beau Prim, who is thought impotent, that his mistress had declared fie would not have him, because he was a floven, and had committed a rape. The Beau bit at the banter, and faid very gravely, he thought to be clean was as much as was necessary; and that as to the rape, he wondered by what witchcraft that should come to her ears;

ears; but it had indeed cost him an hundred pounds to hush the affair.

The Greenhats are a family with small voices and short arms, therefore they have power with none but their friends: They never call after those who run away from them, or pretend to take hold of you, if you refist. But it has been remarkable, that all who have shunned their company, or not listened to them, have fallen into the hands of fuch as have knocked out their brains, or broken their bones. I have looked over our pedigree upon the receipt of this epiftle, and find the Greenhats are a kin to the Staffs. They descend from Maudlin, the left-handed wife of Nebemiah Bickerstaff, in the reign of Harry the Second. And it is remarkable, that they are all left-handed, and have always been very expert at fingle rapier. A man must be very much used to their play to know how to defend himself, for their posture is fo different from that of the right-handed, that you run upon their swords if you push forward; and they are in with you, if you offer to fall back without keeping your guard.

There have been also Letters lately fent to me which relate to other people: Among the rest, some whom I have heretofore declared to be so, are deceased. I must not therefore break through rules fo far, as to speak ill of the Dead. This maxim extends to all but the late Partridge, who still denies his death. I am informed indeed by feveral, that he walks; but I shall with all con-

venient speed lay him.

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St. James's Coffee house, August 24.

We hear from Tournay, that on the night between the twenty-fecond and twenty-third, they went on with their works in the enemy's mines, and levelled the earth which was taken out of them. The next day, at eight in the morning, when the French observed we were relieving our trenches, they sprung a larger mine than any they had fired during the fiege, which killed only four private centinels. The enfuing night we had three men and two Officers killed, as also seven men wounded. Between the twenty fourth and twenty-fifth, we repaired

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fome works which the enemy had ruined. On the next day, some of the enemy's magazines blew up; and it is thought they were destroyed on purpose by some of their men, who are impatient of the hardships of the present fervice. There happened nothing remarkable for two or three days following. A deferter, who came out of the citadel on the twenty-feventh, fays the garrifon is brought to the utmost necessity; that their bread and water are both very bad: And that they were reduced to eat horse flesh. The manner of fighting in this siege has discovered a gallantry in our men unknown to former ages; their meeting with adverse parties under ground, where every step is taken with apprehensions of being blown up with mines below them, or crushed by the fall of the earth above them, and all this acted in darkness. has fomething in it more terrible than ever is met with in any other part of a foldier's duty. However, this is performed with great chearfulness. In other parts of the war we have also good prospects: Count Thaun has taken Annecy, and the Count de Merci marched into Franche Compté, while his Electoral Highness is much superior in number to Monsieur d'Harcourt; so that both on the fide of Savoy and Germany, we have reason to expect very suddenly some great event.

Nº 60. Saturday, August 27, 1709.

White's Chocolate-house, August 26.

To proceed regularly in the history of my Worthies, I ought to give an account of what has passed from day to day in this place; but a young fellow of my acquaintance has so lately been rescued out of the hands of the Knights of the Industry, that I rather chuse to relate the manner of his escape from them, and the uncommon way which was used to reclaim him, than to go on in my intended diary.

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You are to know then, that Tom Wildair is a fludent of the Inner Temple, and has spent his time, fince he left the University for that place, in the common diversions of men of fashion; that is to fay, in whoring, drinking, and gaming. The two former vices he had from his father; but was led into the last by the conversation of a partizan of the Myrmidons, who had chambers near him. His allowance from his father was a very plentiful one for a man of fense, but as scanty for a modern fine Gentleman. His frequent losses had reduced him to so necessitious a condition, that his lodgings were always haunted by impatient creditors; and all his thoughts employed in contriving low methods, to support himself in a way of life from which he knew not how to retreat. and in which he wanted means to proceed. never wanting tome good-natured person to send a man an account of what he has no mind to hear; therefore many epittles were conveyed to the father of this Extravagant, to inform him of the company, the pleafures. the distresses, and entertainments, in which his son passed his time. The old fellow received these advices with all the pain of a parent, but frequently confulted his pillow to know how to behave himself on such important occafions, as the welfare of his fon, and the fafety of his fortune. After many agitations of mind, he reflected, that necessity was the usual snare which made men fall into meannels, and that a liberal fortune generally made a liberal and honest mind; he resolved therefore to save him from his ruin, by giving him opportunities of talling what it is to be at eafe, and enclosed to him the following order upon Sir Triffi am Cajb.

SIR,

"Pray pay to Mr. Thomas Wilder, or order, the fim of one thousand pounds, and place it to the account or

Yours, Humpbry Wildair.

Tom was fo associated at the receipt of this order, that though he knew it to be his father's hand, and that he had always large sums at Sir Tristram's; yet a thousand

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n to You pounds was a truit of which his conduct had always made him appear so little capable, that he kept his note by him, until he writ to his father the following Letter:

Honoured father,

Have received an order under your hand for a thousand pounds, in words at length; and I think I could swear it is your own hand. I have looked it over and over twenty thousand times. There is in plain letters, T,H,O,U,S,A,N,D; and after it, the letters P,O,U,N,D,S. I have it still by me, and shall, I believe, continue reading it until I hear from you."

The old Gentleman took no manner of notice of the receipt of his letter; but fent him another order for three thousand pounds more. His amazement on this fecond letter was unspeakable. He immediately doublelocked his door, and fat down carefully to reading and comparing both his orders. After he had read them until he was half mad, he walked fix or feven turns in his chamber, then opens his door, then locks it again; and to examine thoroughly this matter, he locks his door again, puts his table and chairs against it; then goes into his closet, and locking himself in, read his notes over again about nineteen times, which did but increase his astonishment. Soon after, he began to recollect many flories he had formerly heard of persons, who had been poffessed with imaginations and appearances which had no foundation in Nature, but had been taken with sudden madness in the midst of a seeming clear and untainted reason. This made him very gravely conclude he was out of his wits; and with a design to compose himself, he immediately betakes him to his night-cap, with a resolution to sleep himself into his former poverty and fenses. To bed therefore he goes at noon-day; but foon role again, and refolved to visit Sir Tristram upon this occasion. He did so, and dined with the Knight, expecting he would mention some advice from his father about paying him money; but no fuch thing being faid, Look you, Sir Triftram, faid he, you are to know, that an affair has happened, which13

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Look you, fays Tristram, I know, Mr. Wildair, you are going to defire me to advance; but the late call of the Bank, where I have not yet made my last payment, has obliged me -- Tom interrupted him, by shewing him the bill of a thousand pounds. When he had looked at it for a convenient time, and as often surveyed Tom's looks and countenance; Look you, Mr. Wildair, a thousand pounds-Before he could proceed, he shews him the order for three thousand more -- Sir Tristram examined the orders at the light, and finding at the writing the name, there was a certain droke in one letter, which the father and he had agreed should be to fuch directions as he defired might be more immediately honoured, he forthwith pays the money. The possession of four thousand pounds gave my young Gentleman a new train of thoughts: He began to reflect upon his birth, the great expectations he was born to, and the unsuitable ways he had long pursued. Instead of that unthinking creature he was before, he is now provident, generous, and discreet. The father and son have an exact and regular correspondence, with mutual and unreserved confidence in each other. The son looks upon his father as the best tenant he could have in the country, and the father finds the fon the most fafe banker he could have in the city.

Will's Coffee-house, August 26.

There is not any thing in Nature so extravagant, but that you will find one man or other that shall practife or maintain it; otherwise Harry Spondee could not have made so long an harangue as he did here this evening, concerning the force and efficacy of well-applied Nonfense. Among Ladies, he positively averred it was the most prevailing part of eloquence; and had so little complaifance as to fay, a woman is never taken by her reason, but always by her passion. He proceeded to affert, the way to move that, was only to affonish her. I know, continued he, a very late inflance of this; for being by accident in the room next to Strephon, I could not help over-hearing him as he made Love to a certain great Lady's woman. The true method in your appli-D 3 cation cation to one of this fecond rank of understanding, is not to elevate and furprize, but rather to elevate and amaze. Strephon is a perfect mafter in this kind of permakon: His way is, to run over with a foft air a meltitude of words, without meaning or connexion; but fuch as do each of them apart give a pleasing idea, though they have nothing to do with each other as he affembles them. After the common phrases of salutation, and making his entry into the room, I perceived he had taken the fair nymph's hand, and kissing it faid, Witness to my happiness ye groves! be still ye rivulets! oh! woods, caves, fountains, trees, dales, mountains, hills, and streams! oh! fairest! could you love me? To which I everheard her answer, with a very pretty lisp, Oh! Strephon, you are a dangerous creature: Why do you talk these tender things to me? But you men of wit --- Is it then possible, faid the enamoured Strephon, that the regards my forrows! Oh! pity, thou balmy cure to an heart over-loaded. If rapture, folicitation, foft defire, and pleasing anxiety - But still I live in the most affilding of all circumflances, doubt--Cannot my charmer name the place and moment?

There all those joys insatiably to prove, With which rich beauty feeds the glutton, Love.

Forgive me, Madam, it is not that my heart is weary of its chain, but -- This incoherent fluff was answered by a tender figh, Why do you put your wit to a weak woman? Strepkon saw he had made some progress in her heart, and purfued it, by faving that he would certainly wait upon her at fuch an hour near Refamend's pond; and the-The sylvan Deities, and rural Powers of the place, facred and inviolable to Love; Love, the mover of all noble hearts, should hear his vows repeated by the fireams and echces. The affignation was accordingly made. This style he calls the unintelligible method of speaking his mind; and I will engage, had this gallant tpoken plain English, the had never understood him half so readily. For we may take it for granted, that he will he esteemed as a very cold Lover, who discovers to his mittress that he is in his senses. From

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From my own Apartment, August 26.

The following Letter came to my hand, with a request to have the subject recommended to our readers, particularly the smart Fellows; who are desired to repair to Major Touch-hole, who can help them to sirelockathat are only sit for exercise.

Just ready for the press.

" MARS Triumphant; or, London's Glory: Being the whole art of encampment, with the method of " embattelling armies, marching them off, posting the " officers, forming hollow squares, and the various ways " of paying the falute with the half-pike; as it was " performed by the Trained-bands of London this year,. " One thousand seven hundred and nine, in that nur-" fery of Bellona, the Artillery-ground. Wherein you. " have a new method how to form a strong line of foot, " with large intervals between each platoon, very ufe-" ful to prevent the breaking in of horse. A civil way " of performing the military ceremony; wherein the " Major alights from his horse, and at the head of his " company falutes the Lieutenant Colonel; and the " Lieutenant Colonel, to return the compliment, cour-" teously dismounts, and after the same manner falutes " his Major: Exactly as it was performed, with abun-" dance of applause, on the fifth of July last. Likewise " an account of a new invention, made use of in the red " regiment, to quell mutineering Captains; with feve " ral other things alike useful for the Public. To which " is added, an appendix by Major Touch-hole; proving " the method of discipline now used in our armies to be " very defective: With an effay towards an amend-" ment. Dedicated to the Lieutenant-Colonel of the " first regiment."

[&]quot; Mr. Bickerstaff has now in the press, A Defence of aukward Fellows against the class of the Smarts:

[&]quot; With a differtation upon the Gravity which becomes

[&]quot;Weighty persons. Illustrated by way of fable, and a D 4. "discourse:

- " discourse on the nature of the elephant, the cow, the dray-horse, and the dromedary, which have motions
- " equally steady and grave. To this is added a Trea-
- receiving foreigners into the forest. Adapted to some present circumstances. Together with allusions to
- " fuch beaits as declare against the poor Palatines."

Nº 61. Tuesday, August 30, 1709.

White's Chocolate-house, August 29.

A MONG many phrases which have crept into conversation, especially of such company as frequent this place, there is not one which misleads me more, than that of a "Fellow of a great deal of sire." This metaphorical term, Fire, has done much good in keeping coxcombs in awe of one another; but at the same time it has made them troublesome to every body else. You see, in the very air of a "Fellow of Fire," something so expressive of what he would be at, that if it were not for self-preservation, a man would laugh out.

that list right the sate to drink a bettle with two of these Fireman, who are indeed dispersed like the Myrmudons in all quarters, and to be met with among those of the most disserent education. One of my companions was a scholar with Fire; and the other a soldier of the same complexion. My learned man would fall into disputes, and argue without any manner of provocation or contradiction: The other was decisive without words, and would give a shrug or an oath to express his opinion. My learned man was a mere scholar, and my man of war as mere a soldier. The particularity of the first was ridiculous, that of the second, terrible. They were relations by blood, which in some measure moderated their extravagancies towards each other: I gave myself up nearly as a person of no note in the company; but as

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if brought to be convinced, that I was an inconfiderable thing, any otherwise than that they would shew each other to me, and make me spectator of the triumph they alternately enjoyed. The scholar has been very conversant with books, and the other with men, only; which makes them both superficial: for the taste of books is necessary to our behaviour in the best company. and the knowledge of men is required for a true relish of books: but they have both Fire, which makes one pass for a man of sense, and the other for a fine Gentleman. I found I could eafily enough pass my time with the scholar: for if I seemed not to do justice to his parts and fentiments, he pitied me, and let me alone. But the warrior could not let it rest there; I must know all that happened within his shallow observations of the nature of the war: To all which he added an air of lazinefs, and contempt of those of his companions who were eminent for delighting in the exercise and knowledge of their duty. Thus it is, that all the young fellows of much animal life, and little understanding, who repair to our armies, usurp upon the conversation of reasonable men, under the notion of having Fire.

The word has not been of greater use to shallow lovers, to supply them with chat to their mistresses, than it has been to pretended men of pleasure to support them in being pert and dull, and saying of every fool of their order, "Such a one has Fire." There is Colonel Truncheon who marches with divisions ready on all occasions; an hero who never doubted in his life, but is ever positively fixed in the wrong, not out of obstinate opinion,

but invincible stupidity.

It is very unhappy for this Latitude of London, that it is possible for such as can learn only fashion, habit, and a set of common phrases of salutation, to pass with no other accomplishments, in this nation of freedom, for men of conversation and sense. All these ought to pretend to is, not to offend; but they carry it so far, as to be negligent, whether they offend or not; "For they have Fire." But their force differs from true spirit, as much as a vicious from a mettlesome horse. A man of Fire is a general enemy to all the waiters where you drink; is the only man affronted at the company's be-

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ing neglected; and makes the drawers abroad, his valet de chambre and footman at home, know, he is not to

be provoked without danger.

This is not the Fire that animates the noble Marinus, a youth of good nature, affability, and moderation. He commands his ship as an Intelligence moves its orb: He is the vital life, and his officers the limbs of the machine. His vivacity is seen in doing all the offices of life with readiness of spirit, and propriety in the manner of doing them. To be ever active in laudable pursuits, is the distinguishing character of a man of merit; while the common behaviour of every gay coxcomb of Fire is, to be confidently in the wrong, and dare to persist in it.

Will's Coffee-house, August 29.

It is a common objection against writings of a satirical mixture, that they hurt men in their reputations, and confequently in their fortunes and possessions: but a Gentleman who frequents this room declared, he was of opinion it ought to be fo, provided fuch performances had their proper restrictions. The greatest evils in human fociety are fuch as no law can come at; as in the case of ingratitude, where the manner of obliging very often leaves the benefactor without means of demanding juffice, though that very circumstance should be more binding to the person who has received the benefit. On fuch an occasion, shall it be possible for the malefactor to esc pe? and is it not lawful to fet marks upon persons who live within the law, and do base things? shall not we use the same protection of those laws to punish them, which they have to defend themselves? We shall therefore take it for a very moral action to find a good appellation for offenders, and to turn them into ridicule uncer feigned names.

I am advertifed by a letter, of August the twenty sisth, that the name of Coppersmith has very much wanted explanation in the city, and by that means unjustly given, by those who are conscious they deserve it themselves, to an honest and worthy citizen belonging to the Copperssion of wealth amongst men, whereby he, that has getten

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any part of it by injustice and extortion, is to be thought in the eye of virtuous men so much the poorer for such gain. Thus all the gold which is torn from our neighbours, by making advantage of their wants, is Copper; and I authorize the Lombards to distinguish themselves accordingly. All the honest, who make a reasonable profit, both for the advantage of themselves and those they deal with, are Goldsmiths; but those who tear unjustly all they can, Coppersmiths. At the same time I desire him who is most guilty, to sit down satisfied with riches and contempt, and be known by the title of The Coppersmith;" as being the chief of that re-

spected, contemptible fraternity.

This is the case of all others mentioned in our Lucubrations; particularly of Stentor, who goes on in his veciferations at Saint Paul's with fo much obstinacy, that he has received admonition from Saint Peter's for it, . from a person of eminent wit and piety; but who is by old age reduced to the infirmity of Reeping at a fervice, to which he has been fifty years attentive; and whose death, whenever it happens, may, with that of the faints, well be called, Falling afleep: for the innocence of his. life makes him expect it as indifferently as he does his ordinary reft. This gives him a chearfulness of spirit to rally on his own weakness, and hath made him write to Stentor to hearken to my admonitions. Erother Stentor, . faid he, for the repose of the church, hearken to Bickerfloff; and confider that while you are so devout at Saint Paul's, we cannot fleep for you at Saint Fitter's.

From my own Apartment, August 29.

There has been lately fent me a much harder question than was ever yet put to me, since I professed Astrology; to wit, how far, and to what age, women ought to make their Beauty their chief concern? The regard and care of their faces and persons are as variously to be considered, as their complexions themselves differ; but if one may transgress against the careful practice of the sair Sex so much as to give an opinion against it, I humbly presume, that less care, better applied, would encrease their empire, and make it last as long as life.

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Whereas now, from their own example, we take our effect of their merit from it; for it is very just, that she who values herself only on her Beauty, should be re-

garded by others on no other confideration.

There is certainly a liberal and pedantic education among women, as well as men; and the merit lasts accordingly. She therefore that is bred with freedom, and in good company, confiders men according to their respective characters and distinctions; while she, that is locked up from fuch observations, will consider her father's butler, not as a butler, but as a man. In like manner, when men converse with women, the well-bred and intelligent are looked upon with an observation fuitable to their different talents and accomplishments, without respect to their Sex; while a mere woman can be observed under no consideration but that of a woman; and there can be but one reason for placing any value upon her, or losing time in her company. Wherefore I am of opinion, that the rule for pleasing long is, to obtain such qualifications as would make them so, were they not women.

Let the beauteous Cleamira then shew us her real face, and know that every stage of life has its peculiar charms, and that there is no necessity for fifty to be fifteen : That childish colouring of her cheeks is now as ungraceful, as that shape would have been when her face wore its real countenance. She has fenfe, and ought to know, that if the will not follow Nature, Nature will follow her. Time then has made that person which had, when I visited her grandfather, an agreeable bloom, sprightly air, and foft utterance, now no less graceful in a lovely aspect, an awful manner, and maternal wisdom. But her heart was so set upon her first character, that she neglects and repines at her present; not that she is against a more stayed conduct in others, for she recommends gravity, circumspection, and severity of countenance to her daughter. Thus, against all chronology,

the girl is the Sage, the mother the fine Lady.

But these great evils proceed from an unaccountable wild method in the education of the better half of the world, the Women. We have no such thing as a standard for good breeding. I was the other day at my Lady

Lady Wealthy's, and asked one of her daughters, how she did? She answered, she never conversed with men. The same day I visited at lady Plantwell's, and asked her daughter the same question. She answers, What is that to you, you old thies? And gives me a slap on the shoulders.

I defy any man in England, except he knows the family before he enters, to be able to judge whether he shall be agreeable or not, when he comes into it. You find either some odd old woman, who is permitted to rule as long as she lives, in hopes of her death, and to interrupt all things; or some impertinent young woman. who will talk filily upon the firength of looking beautifully. I will not answer for it, but it may be, that I (like all other old fellows) have a fondness for the fashions and manners which prevailed when I was young and in fashion myself. But certain it is, that the taste of grace and Beauty is very much lowered. The fine women they shew me now-a-days are at best but pretty girls to me who have feen Sachariffa, when all the world repeated the poems she inspired; and Villaria, when a youthful King was her subject. The Things you follow, and make fongs on now, should be fent to knit, or fit down to bobbins or bone-lace: They are indeed neat, and so are their sempstresses; they are pretty, and so are their hand-maids. But that graceful motion, that awful. mien, and that winning attraction, which grew upon them from the thoughts and conversations they met with in my time, are now no more seen. They tell me I am old: I am glad I am fo; for I do not like your present young Ladies.

Those among us, who set up for any thing of decorum, do so mistake the matter, that they offend on the other side. Five young Ladies, who are of no small same for their great severity of manners, and exemplary behaviour, would lately go no where with their loversbut to an organ-lost in a church; where they had a cold treat, and some sew opera songs, to their great refreshment and ediscation. Whether these prudent persons had not been as much so, if this had been done at a tavern, is not very hard to determine. It is such silly starts and incoherences as these, which undervalue the beauteous Sex, and puzzle us in our choice of sweetness of temper and simplicity of manners, which are the only lasting charms of woman. But I must leave this important subject, at present, for some matters which press for publication; as you will observe in the following letter:

Dear Sir,

T is natural for distant relations to claim kindred with a rising family; though at this time, zeal to " my country, not interest, calls me out. The city-" forces being shortly to take the field, all good Pro-" testants would be pleased that their arms and valour " should shine with equal lustre. A council of war was " lately held, the Honourable Colonel Mortar being " prefident. After many debates, it was unannimously " refolved, That Major Blunder, a most expert officer, " should be detached for Birmingham to buy arms, and " to prove his fire-locks on the spot, as well to prevent " expence, as disappointment in the day of battle. The " Major, being a person of consummate experience, " was invested with a discretionary power. He knew " from antient flory, that fecuring the rear, and making a glorious retreat, was the most celebrated piece of " conduct. Accordingly such measures were taken to " prevent furprize in the rear of his arms, that even " Pallas herfelf, in the thape of ruit, could not invade them. They were drawn into close order, firmly " embodied, and arrived fecurely without touch holes. "Great and national actions deferve popular applause; " and as praise is no expense to the Public, therefore, " dearest Kinfman, I communicate this to you, as well " to oblige this nursery of heroes, as to do justice to my " native country. I am

Your moft

London, Aug. 26. Medicry-Grands

afectionate kinsman,

Offspring Twiz.

" A war-

"A war-horse belonging to one of the Colonels of the Artillery, to be let or fold. He may be seen adorned

" with ribbands, and fet forth to the best advantage,

" the next training day."

N° 62. Thursday, September 1, 1709.

White's Chocolate-house, August 31.

This place being frequented by persons of condition, I am desired to recommend a dog-kennel to any who shall want a pack. It lies not far from Suffilk-street, and is kept by two who were formerly Dragoon in the French service; but lest plundering for the most orderly life of keeping Dogs: Besides that, according to their expectation, they find it more prostable, as well as more conducing to the safety of their skin, to follow this trade, than the beat of drum. Their residence is very convenient for the Dogs to whelp in, and bring up a right breed to follow the scent. The most eminent of the kennel are blood-hounds, which lead the van, and are as follow:

A list of the Dogs.

Jowler, of a right Irifo breed, called Captain.

Rockwood, of French race, with long hair, by the courtefy of England called also Captain.

Pomjey, a tall hound, kennelled in a Convent in

France, and knows a rich foil.

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These two last hunt in couple, and are followed by

Ringwood, a Frenc' black whelp of the same breed, a fine open-mouthed org; and an old sick hound, always in kennel, but of the true blood, with a good nose, French breed.

There

There is also an Italian grey-hound, with good legs, and knows persectly the ground from Ghent to Paris.

Ten setting-dogs, right English.
Four mongrels, of the same nation:
And twenty whelps, fit for any game.

These curs are so extremely hungry, that they are tookeen at the sport, and worry their game before the keepers can come in. The other day a wild boar from the north rushed into the kennel, and at first indeed defended himself against the whole pack; but they proved at last too many for him, and tore twenty-sive pounds of sless from off his back, with which they filled their bellies, and made so great a noise in the neighbourhood, that the keepers are obliged to hasten the sale. That quarter of the town where they are kennelled, is generally inhabited by strangers, whose blood the hounds have often sucked in such a manner, that many a German Count, and other Virtuosi, who came from the continent, have lost the intention of their travels, and been unable to proceed on their journey.

If these hounds are not very soon disposed of to some good purchaser, as also those at the kennels near Saint James's, it is humbly proposed, that they may be all together transported to America, where the dogs are sew, and the wild beasts many: Or, that during their stay in these parts, some eminent Justice of the peace may have it in particular direction to visit their harbours; and that the sherist of Middlesex may allow him the assistance of the common hangman to cut off their ears, or part of them, for distinction-sake, that we may know the blood-hounds from the mongrels and setters. Until these things are regulated, you may enquire at an house belonging to Paris, at the upper end of Susfolk-street, or an house belonging to Ghent, opposite to the lower end

of Pall-mall, and know further.

It were to be wished that the curs were disposed of; for it is a very great nuisance to have them tolerated in cities. That of London takes care, that the Common Hunt, assisted by the serjeants and bailiss, expel them wherever they are found within the walls; though it is said, some private samilies keep them, to the destruction

of their neighbours: But it is defired, that all who know of any of these curs, or have been bit by them. would fend me their marks, and the houses where they are harboured; and I do not doubt but I shall alarm the people so well, as to have them used like mad dogs wherever they appear. In the mean time, I advise all fuch as entertain this kind of vermin, that if they give me timely notice that their Dogs are dismissed, I shall let them go unregarded; otherwise am obliged to admonish my fellow subjects in this behalf, and instruct them how to avoid being worried, when they are going about their lawful professions and callings. There was lately a young Gentleman bit to the bone; who has now indeed recovered his health, but is as lean as a skeleton. It grieved my heart to fee a Gentleman's fon run among the hounds; but he is, they tell me, as fleet and as dangerous as the best of the pack.

Will's Coffee-house, August 31.

This evening was fpent at our table in discourse of propriety of words and thoughts, which is Mr. Dryden's definition of Wit; but a very odd fellow, who would intrude upon us, and has a brifkness of imagination more like madness than regular thoughts, faid, that Harry Jacks was the first who told him of the taking of the cital of Tournay; and, fays he, Harry deferves a statue more than the boy who ran to the senate with a thern in his foot, to tell of a victory. We were aftonished at the affertion, and Stondee asked him, What affinity is there between that boy and Harry, that you fay their merit has so near a resemblance as you just now told us? Why, fays he, Harry, you know, is in the French interest; and it was more pain to him to tell the story of Tournay, than to the boy to run upon a thorn to relate a victory which he was glad of. The Gentleman, who was in the chair upon the subject of propriety of words and thoughts, would by no means allow, that there was Wit in this comparison; and urged, that to have any thing gracefully faid, it must be natural; but that whatfoever was introduced in common discourse with so much premeditation, was insufferable. That critic went on: Had

Had Mr. Jacks, faid he, told him the citadel was taken. and another had answered, He deserves a statue as well as the Roman boy, for he told it with as much pain, it might have passed for a sprightly expression; but there is a Wit for discourse, and a Wit for writing. The ensiness and familiarity of the first is not to favour in the least of fludy; but the exactness of the other is to admit of something like the freedom of discourse, especially in treatises of Humanity, and what regards the Belles Lettres. I do not in this allow, that Bicker flaff's Tatlers, or discourse of Wit by retail, and for the penny, should come within the description of Writing. I howed at his compliment,

and-But he would not let me proceed.

You see in no place of conversation the perfection of speech so much as in an accomplished woman. Whether it be, that there is partiality irrefistible when we judge of that Sex, or whatever it is, you may observe a wonderful freedom in their utterance, and an easy flow of words, without being diffracted (as we often are who read much) in the choice of dictions and phrases. My Lady Courtly is an instance of this: She was talking the other day of dress, and did it with so excellent an air and gesture, that you would have sworn she had learned her action from our Demosthenes. Besides which, her words were fo particularly well adapted to the matter she talked of, that though dress was a new thing to us men, she avoided the terms of art in it, and described anunaffected garb and manner in fo proper terms, that the came up to that of Horace's Simplex Munaities; which, whoever can translate in two words has as much eloquence as Lady Courtly. I took the liberty to tell her, that all she had faid with so much good grace, was spoken in two words in Horace, but would not undertake to translate them; upon which she smiled, and told me, she believed me a very great scholar; and I took my leave.

From my own Apartment, August 31.

I have been just now reading the introduction to the history of Catiline by Sallast, an author who is very much in my favour: But when I reflect upon his profeshing himself

" oblige

himself wholly difinterested, and at the same time see how industriously he has avoided faying any thing to the praise of Cicero, to whose vigilance the common-wealth owed its fafety, it very much leffens my efteem for that writer; and is one argument among others, for laughing at all who pretend to be out of the interests of the world, and profess purely to act for the service of mankind, without the least regard to themselves. I do not deny but that the rewards are different; some aim at riches. others at honour, by their public fervices. However, they are all pursuing some end to themselves, though indeed those ends differ as much as right and wrong. most graceful way then, I should think, would be to acknowledge, that you aim at ferving yourfelves; but at the same time make it appear, it is for the service of others that you have these opportunities.

Of all the difinterested professors I have ever heard of, I take the Boatswain of Dampier's ship to be the most impudent, but the most excusable. You are to know, that in the wild searches that navigator was making, they happened to be out at sea, far distant from any shore, in want of all the necessaries of life; insomuch, that they began to look, not without hunger, on each other. The Boatswain was a fat, healthy, fresh fellow, and attracted the eyes of the whole crew. In such an extreme necessity, all forms of superiority were laid aside: The Captain and Lieutenant were safe only by being carrion, and the unhappy Boatswain in danger only by being worth eating. To be short, the company were unanimous, and the Boatswain must be cut up. He saw their intention, and defired he might speak a sew words before they proceeded; which being permitted, he delivered

himself as follows:

Gentlemen Sailors,

" Far be it that I should speak it for any private interest of my own; but I take it, that I should not die

[&]quot; with a good conscience, if I did not confess to you, that I am not sound. I say, Gentlemen, justice, and

[&]quot;the testimony of a good conscience, as well as love of my country, to which I hope you will all return,

" oblige me to own, that black Kate at Deptford has

" made me very unsafe to eat; and, I speak it with shame, I am asraid, Gentlemen, I should poison you."

This speech had a good effect in the Boatswain's favour; but the Surgeon of the ship protested, he had cured him very well, and offered to eat the first steak of him himself.

The Boatswain replied, like an orator, with a true notion of the people, and in hopes to gain time, that he was heartily glad if he could be for their service, and thanked the Surgeon for his information. However, said he, I must inform you, for your own good, that I have ever since my cure been very thirsty and dropsical; therefore I presume, it would be much better to tap me and drink me off, than eat me at once, and have no man in the ship sit to be drank. As he was going on with his harangue, a fresh gale arose, and gave the crew hopes of a better repast at the nearest shore, to which they arrived next morning.

Most of the self-denials we meet with are of this sort; therefore I think he acts fairest who owns, he hopes at least to have brother's fare, without professing that he gives himself up with pleasure to be devoured for the

preservation of his fellows.

St. James's Coffee house, August 31.

Letters from the Hague of the fixth of September, N. S. fay, that the Governor of the citadel of Tournay, having offered their Highnesses the Duke of Marlborough and the Prince of Savey to surrender that place on the thirty-first of the last month, on terms which were not allowed them by those princes, hostilities were thereupon renewed; but that on the third the place was surrendered, with a seeming condition granted to the besieged above that of being prisoners of war: For they were forthwith to be conducted to Conde, but were to be exchanged for prisoners of the Allies, and particularly those of Warneton were mentioned in the demand. Both armies having stretched towards Mons with the utmost diligence, that of the Allies, though they passed the much more difficult

ficult road, arrived first before that town, which they have now actually invested; and the Quarter-master General was, at the time of dispatching these letters, marking the ground for the encampment of the covering army.

To the Bookfellers, or others whom this advertisement may concern.

" Mr. Omicron, the unborn Poet, gives notice, that " he writes all treatifes, as well in verse as prose, being " a ninth fon, and translates out of languages, with-

" out learning or fludy.

" If any Bookseller will treat for his Pastoral on the " fiege and furrender of the citadel of Tournay, he must " fend in his proposals before the news of a capitulation

" for any other town.

- "The undertaker for either play-house may have " an Opera written by him; or, if it shall suit their " defign, a fatire upon Opera's; both ready for next " winter.
- "This is to give notice, that Richard Farloe, M. A. " well known for his acuteness in diffection of dead bo-" dies, and his great skill in ofteology, has now laid by " that practice; and having, by great study and much " labour, acquired the knowledge of an Antidote for " all the most common maladies of the stomach, is re-" moved and may be applied to, at any time of the day,

" in the fouth entrance from Newgate-fireet into Christ's " hospital."

Nº 63. Saturday, September 3, 1709.

White's Chocolate-house, September 2.

Of the enjoyment of life with regard to others.

Have ever thought it the greatest dimunition to the Roman glory imaginable, that in their institution of public triumphs, they led their enemies in chains when they were prisoners. It is to be allowed, that doing all honour to the superiority of Heroes above the reit of mankind, must needs conduce to the glory and advantage of a nation; but what shocks the imagination to reflect upon is, that a polite people should think it reafonable, that an unhappy man, who was no way inferior to the victor but by the chance of war, should be led like a flave at the wheels of his chariot. Indeed, these other circum tances of a triumph, That it was not allowed in a civil war, lest part of it should be in tears, while the other was making acclamations; that it should not be granted, except fuch a number were flain in battle; that the General should be disgraced who made a falle muster of his dead; thefe, I say, had great and politic ends in their being established, and tended to the apparent benefit of the common-wealth. But this behaviour to the conquered, had no foundation in Nature or Policy, only to gratify the infolence of an haughty people, who triumphed over barbarous nations, by acting what was fit only for those very barbarians to practise. It seems wonderful, that they who were fo refined as to take care that, to complete the honour done to the victorious officer, no power should be known above him in the empire on the day of his triumph, but that the confuls themselves should be but guests at his table that evening, could not take it into thought to make the man of chief note among his prisoners one of the company. This would e

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his uld would have improved the gladness of the occasion; and the victor had made a much greater figure, in that no other man appeared unhappy on his day, than because

no other man appeared great.

But we will wave at prefent such important incidents, and turn our thoughts rather to the samiliar part of human life, and we shall find, that the great business we contend for is in a less degree what those Romans did on more solemn occasions, to triumph over our sellow creatures; and there is hardly a man to be found, who would not rather be in pain to appear happy, than be really happy and appear miserable. This men attempt by sumptuous equipages, splendid houses, numerous servants, and all the cares and pursuits of an ambitious or fashionable life.

Bromeo and Tabio are particularly ill-wishers to each other, and rivals in happiness. There is no way in nature fo good to procure the effeem of the one, as to give him little notices of certain fecret points, wherein the other is uneasy. Gnatho has the skill of doing this, and never applauds the improvements Bromeo has been many years making, and ever will be making, but he adds, " Now this very thing was my thought when Tabio was " pulling up his underwood, yet he never would hear " of it; but now your gardens are in this posture, he " is ready to hang himself. Well, to be fincere, that " fituation of his can never make an agreeable feat; " he may make his house and appurtenances what he " pleases, but he cannot remove them to the same " ground where Bromeo stands; and of all things un-" der the fun, a man that is happy at second-hand is " the most monstrous." It is a very strange madness, answers Bromeo, if a man on these occasions can think of any end but pleasing himself. As for my part, if things are convenient, I hate all oftentation. There is no end of the folly of adapting our affairs to the imagination of others. Upon which, the next thing he does is to enlarge whatever he hears his rival has attempted to imitate him in; but their misfortune is, that they are in their time of life, in their estates, and in their understandings equal; so that the emulation may continue to the last day of their lives. As it stands now, Tabio has

heard, that Bromeo has lately purchased two hundred a year in the Annuities since he last settled the account of their happiness, in which he thought himself to have the balance. This may seem a very fantastical way of thinking in these men; but there is nothing so common, as a man's endeavouring rather to go further than some other person towards an easy fortune, than to form any certain standard that would make himself happy.

Will's Coffee-house, September 2.

Mr. Dactyle has been this evening very profuse of his eloquence upon the talent of turning things into ridicule; and seemed to say very justly, that there was generally in it something too disingenuous for the society of liberal men, except it were governed by the circumstances of . persons, time, and place. This talent, continued he, is to be used as a man does his sword, not to be drawn but in his own defence, or to bring pretenders and impostors in society to a true light. But we have seen this faculty fo mistaken, that the burlesque of Virgil himself has passed, among men of little taste, for wit; and the noblest thoughts that can enter into the heart of man levelled with ribaldry and baseness: Though by the rules of justice, no man ought to be ridiculed for any imperfection, who does not fet up for eminent sufficiency in that way wherein he is defective. Thus cowards, who would hide themselves by an affected terror in their mien and dress; and pedants, who would shew the depth of their knowledge by a supercilious gravity, are equally the objects of laughter. Not that they are in themselves ridiculous for their want of courage, or weakness of understanding; but that they seem insensible of their own place in life, and unhappily rank themselves with those, whose abilities, compared to their defects, make them contemptible.

At the same time, it must be remarked, that risibility being the effect of reason, a man ought to be expelled from sober company, who laughs alone. Ha! ha! says Will Truby, who sat by, will any man pretend to give me laws when I should laugh, or tell me what I should laugh at? Look ye, answered Humphry Shiboots, you are mightily

mightily mislaken; you may, if you please, make what noise you will, and no body can hinder an English Gentleman from putting his face into what posture he thinks fit; but, take my word for it, that motion which you now make with your mouth open, and the agitation of your stomach, which you relieve by holding your sides, is not laughter: Laughter is a more weighty thing than you imagine; and I will tell you a fecret, you never did laugh in your life: and truly I am afraid you never will. except you take great care to be cured of those convulfive fits. Truby left us, and when he had got two yards from us, Well, faid he, you are strange fellows! and

was immediately taken with another fit.

The Trubies are a well-natured family, whose partieular make is fuch, that they have the fame pleafure out of good-will, which other people have in that fcorn which is the cause of laughter: Therefore their burfling into the figures of men, when laughing, proceeds only from a general benevolence they are born with; as the Slyboots smile only on the greatest occasion of mirth; which difference is caused rather from a different structure of their organs, than that one is less moved than the other. I know Sourly frets inwardly, when Will Truby laughs at him; but when I meet him, and he burits out, I know it is out of his abundant joy to fee me, which he expresses by that vociferation which is in others laughter. But I shall defer considering this subject at large, until I come to my Treatile of olditation, laughter, and ridicule.

From my own Apartment, Section of 2.

The following Letter being a panegyric upon me for a quality which every man may attain, an acknowledgment of his faults; I thought it for the good of my fellow-writers to publish it.

S13,

"I T must be allowed, that Esquire Lieberstaff is of all Authors the most ingenu us. There are few, very few, that will own themselves in a missake. VOL. II. .. though

" tincture

" though all the world fee them to be in downright " noniense. You will be pleased, Sir, to pardon this " expression, for the same reason for which you once defired us to excuse you, when you feemed any thing "dull. Most Writers, like the generality of Claude "Lorraine's Saints, feem to place a peculiar vanity in " dving hard. But you, Sir, to show a good example " to your brethren, have not only confessed, but of your own accord mended the indictment. Nay, you have " been so good-natured as to discover beauties in it, " which, I will affure you, he that drew it never " dreamed of. And, to make your civility the more accomplished, you have honoured him with the title " of your kinfman, which, though derived by the left-" hand, he is not a little proud of. My brother, for " fuch Obadiah is, being at prefent very buty about " nothing, has ordered me to return you his fincere thanks for all these favours; and, as a small token of " his gratitude, to communicate to you the following " piece of intelligence, which, he thinks, belongs more properly to you, than to any others of our modern " historians.

" Madonella, who, as it was thought, had long fince " taken her flight towards the atherial mansions, still walks, it feems, in the regions of mortality; where " she has found, by deep reflections on the revolution " mentioned in yours of June the twenty-third, that " where early instructions have been wanting to imprint " true ideas of things on the tender Souls of those of " her Sex, they are never after able to arrive at fuch a " pitch of perfection, as to be above the laws of matter " and motion; laws which are confiderably enforced by " the principles usually in bibed in nurseries and board-" ing schools. To remedy this evil, she has laid the " scheme of a college for young damsels; where, instead of sciffars, needles, and samplers; pens, compasses, " quadrants, books, manuscripts, Greek, Latin, and "Hebrew, are to take up their whole time. Only on " holidays the students will, for moderate exercise, be

" allowed to divert themselves with the use of some of the lightest and most voluble weapons; and proper care will be taken to give them at least a superficial e

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" tincture of the ancient and modern Amazonian tactics. " Of these military performances, the direction is un-" dertaken by Epicene, the writer of Memoirs from the " Mediterranean, who, by the help of some artificial " poifons conveyed by fmells, has within thefe few " weeks brought many persons of both sexes to an un-" timely fate; and, what is more furprifing, has, con-" trary to her profession, with the same odours, revived " others who had long fince been drowned in the whirl-" pools of Lethe. Another of the professors is to be a " certain Lady, who is now publishing two of the " choicest Saxon novels, which are faid to have been in " as great repute with the Ladies of Queen Emma's "Court, as the Memoirs from the New Atalantis are " with those of ours. I shall make it my business to " inquire into the progress of this learned institution, " and give you the first notice of their Philosophical "Transactions, and searches after Nature.

Yours, &c.

Tobiah Greenhai.

St. James's Coffee-house, September 2.

This day we have received advices by the way of Oftend, which give an account of an engagement between the French and the Allies on the eleventh instant, N. S. Marshal Boufflers arrived in the enemy's camp on the fifth, and acquainted Marshal Villars, that he did not come in any character, but to receive his commands for the King's fervice, and communicate to him his orders upon the present posture of affairs. On the ninth, both armies advanced towards each other, and cannonaded all the enfuing day until the close of the evening, and stood on their arms all that night. On the day of battle the cannonading was renewed about feven: The Duke of Argyle had orders to attack the wood Sart on the right, which he executed fo fuccefsfully, that he pierced through it, and won a confiderable post. The Prince of Orange had the same good fortune in a wood on the left: After which the whole body of the confederates, joined by the forces from the siege, marched up and engaged the enemy, who were drawn up at some distance from these woods. The dispute was very warm for some time; but towards noon, the French began to give ground from one wing to the other; which advantage being observed by our Generals, the whole army was urged on with fresh vigour, and in a few hours the day ended with the entire deseat of the enemy.

Nº 64. Thursday, September 6, 1709.

Quæ caret ora cruore nostro? Hon. Od. 1. 1. 2. ver. 36.

What coast, encircled by the briny flood, Boasts not the glorious tribute of our blood.

From my own Apartment, September 5.

W HEN I lately spoke of triumphs, and the behaviour of the Romans on those occasions, I knew by my skill in astrology, that there was a great event approaching to our advantage; but not having yet taken upon me to tell fortunes, I thought fit to defer the mention of the battle near Mons until it happened; which moderation was no fmall pain to me: But I should wrong my art, if I concealed that some of my ærial intelligencers had fignified to me the news of it even from Paris, before the arrival of Lieutenant-Colonel Graham in England. All nations, as well as persons, have their good and evil Genius attending them; but the kingdom of France has three, the last of which is neither for it nor against it in reality; but has for some months past acted an ambiguous part, and attempted to fave its Ward from the incursion of its powerful enemies, by little subterfuges and tricks, which a nation is more than undone when it is reduced to practife. Thus, instead of giving exact exact accounts and representations of things, they tell what is indeed true, but at the fame time a falshood, when all the circumfrances come to be related. Pacole: was at the Court of France on Friday night last, when this Genius of that kingdom came thither in the shape of a post-boy, and cried out, that Mons was relieved. and the Duke of Marlborough marched. Pacolet was much aftonished at this account, and immediately changed his form, and flew to the neighbourhood of Mons, from whence he found the Allies had really marched; and began to enquire into the reasons of this sudden change, and half-feared he had heard a truth of the posture of the French affairs, even in their own country. But upen diligent enquiry among the ærials who attend those regions, and confultation with the neighbouring peafants, he was able to bring me the following account of the motions of the armies since they retired from about that

place, and the action which followed thereupon.

On Saturday the leventh of September, N. S. the Confederate army was alarmed in their camp at Haure, by intelligence, that the enemy were marching to attack the Prince of Here Upon this advice, the Dake of Marlborough commanded that the troops should immediately move; which was accordingly performed, and they were all joined on Sunday the eighth at noon. On that day in the morning it appeared, that instead of being attacked, the advanced guard of the detachment, commanded by the Prince of Heffe, had dispersed and taken prisoners a party of the enemy's horse, which was fent out to observe the march of the Confederates. The French moved from Quiverain on Sunday in the morning, and inclined to the right from thence all that day. The winth, the Monday following, they continued their march, until on Tuesday, the tenth, they possessed themselves of the woods of Dour and Blaugies. As foon as they came into that ground, they threw up intrenchments with all expedition. The Allies arrived within few hours after the enemy was posted; but the Duke of Marlborough thought fit to wait for the arrival of the reinforcement which he expected from the fiege of Tournay. Upon no. tice that these troops were so far advanced, as to be depended

pended on for an action the next day, it was accordingly

refolved to engage the enemy.

It will be necessary for understanding the greatness of the action, and the feveral motions made in the time of the engagement, that you have in your mind an idea of the place. The two armies on the eleventh instant were both drawn up before the woods of Dour, Blaugies, Sart, and Janfart; the army of the Prince of Savoy on the right before that of Blaugies; the forces of Great-Britain in the center on his left; those of the High Allies, before the wood Sart, as well as a large interval of plain ground. and fanfart, on the left of the whole. The enemy were intrenched in the paths of the woods, and drawn up behind two intrenchments over-against them, opposite to the armies of the Duke of Marlborough and Prince Eugens. There were also two lines intrenched in the plains overagainst the army of the States. This was the posture of the French and Confederate forces when the fignal was given, and the whole line moved on to the charge.

The Dutch army, commanded by the Prince of Heffe, attacked with the most undaunted bravery, and, after a very obflinate refificance, forced the first intrenchment of the creasy in the plain between Sart and Januart; but were received in their attack on the fecond with great for her in lath offer. The Duke of Marting was the said of an the left, has with ver reached to the process through Sair, and beaton the enous at in the Everal intrenchments they had thrown in ... it. As from as the Duke had marched into the plain, be observed the main body of the enemy drawn up and intreached in the front of his army. This fituation of the enemy, in the ordinary courfe of war, is usually thought an advantage hardly to be furmounted; and might repear impracticable to any, but that army which had just overcome greater difficulties. The Duke commanded the troops to form, but to forbear charging until further order. In the mean time he vifited the left of our line, where the troops of the States had been engaged. The flaughter on this fide had been very great, and the Dutch incapable of making further progress, except they were fucuenty reinforced. The right of our was tracked foun after their coming upon the plain; of

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but they drove back the enemy with fuch bravery, that the victory began to incline to the Allies by the precipitate retreat of the French to their works, from whence they were immediately beaten. The Duke, upon obferving this advantage on the right, commanded the Earl of Orkney to march with a fufficient number of battalions, to force the enemy from their intrenchments on the plain between the woods of Sart and Janfart; which being performed, the horse of the Allies marched in ... the plains, covered by their own foot, and forming themselves in good order, the cavalry of the enemy attempted no more, but to cover the foot in their retreat. The Alles made to good use of the beginning of the victory, that all their troops moved on with fresh refolution, until they faw the enemy fly before them towards Conde and Maubeuge; after whom proper detachments were made, who made a terrible flaughter in the parfuit.

In this action it is faid Prince Eugene was wounded, as also the Duke of Aremberg, and Lieutenant-General Webb. The Count of Oxenstern, Colonel Lalo, and Sir

Thomas Pendergrafs, were killed.

This wonderful fuccess, obtained under all the difficulties that could be opposed in the way of an army, must be acknowledged as owing to the pensits, courage, and conduct of the Doke of Marlboures, a consummate Hero; who has lived not only beyond the time in vertices faid, he was arrived at a fatiety of tife and gloss, but also been so long the subject of panegyric, that it is as hard to say any thing new in his praise, as to accept the merit which requires such eulogiums.

Will's Coffee house, September ;

The following Letter being very explanatory of the true defign of our Lucubrations, and at the time time an excellent model for performing it, it is absolutely necessary, for the better understanding our works, to publish it.

To Isaac BICKERSTAFF, Esquire.

SIR,

HOUGH I have not the honour to be of the family of the Staffs, nor related to any branch of it, yet I applaud your wholesome project of making wit useful.

"This is what has been, or should have been, intended by the best Comedies. But no body, I think,
before you, thought of a way to bring the stage as it
were into the Cossee-house, and there attack those
Gentlemen who thought themselves out of the reach
of raillery, by prudently avoiding its chief walks and
districts. I smile when I see a solid citizen of threescore read the article from Will's Cossee-house, and seem
to be just beginning to learn his Alphabet of wit in

" spectacles; and to hear the attentive table sometimes to hop him with pertinent queries, which he is puzzled to answer, and then join in commending it the sincerest way, by freely owning he does not understand it.

"In purfuing this denge, you will always have a a large scene before you, and can never be at a loss for characters to entertain a town so plentifully flocked with them. The follows of the finest minds, which a philosophical surgeon knows how to dislicet, will best entitly soor sails And of this fort, I take the liberty

. to fact you the following Starch.

· Cheeres is a man of good family, good learning, · entertaining convertation, and acute wit. He talks · well, is matter of flyle, and writes not contemptibly · in verte. Yet all this ferves but to make him politely · ridiculous; and he is above the rank of common cha-· ractors, only to have the privilege of being laughed · at by the best. His family makes him proud and · foorning; his learning, affuming and abourd; and his

"wit, arrogant and fatirical. He mixes some of the best qualities of the head with the worst of the heart. Every body is entertained by him, while no body

esteems him. I am, Sir,

your most affectionate monitor, Jestab Couplet. h

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"Lost, from the Cocoa-Tree in Pall-mall, two Irish dogs, belonging to the pack of London; one a tall white wolf-dog; the other a black nimble Greyhound, not very sound, and supposed to be gone to the Bath by instinct for cure. The man of the Inn from whence they ran, being now there, is desired, if he meets either of them, to tie them up. Several others are lost about Tunbridge and Epsom; which whoever willing maintain, may keep."

Nº 65. Saturday, September 8, 1709.

Quicquid agunt homines nostri farrago libelli.

Juv. Sat. 1. ver. 85.

Whatever good is done, whatever ill—By human kind, shall this collection fill.

Will's Coffee house, September 7.

I Came hither this evening, and expected nothing Mile but mutual congratulations in the company on the late victory; but found our room, which one would have hoped to have feen full of good humour and alacrity upon fo glorious an occasion, full of four animals, enquiring into the action, in doubt of what had happened, and fearful of the fuccess of their countrymen. It is natural to believe eafily what we wish heartily; and a certain rule, that they are not friends to a glad occafion, who speak all they can again the truth of it; who end their argument against our happines, that they wish. to otherwise. When I came into the room, a Gentleman was declaiming: If fays he, we have so great and complete a victory, why have we not the names of the prifoners? why is not an exact relation of the conduct of our Generals laid before the world? why do we not know. 10 0

know where or whom to applaud? If we are victorious, why do we not give an account of our captives and our flain? But we are to be fatisfied with general notices we are conquerors, and to believe it fo. Sure this is approving the despotic way of treating the world, which we pretend to fight against, if we fit down fatisfied with fuch contradictory accounts, which have the words of triumph, but do not bear the spirit of it. I whispered Mr. Greenbat, Pray, what can that diffatisfied man be? He is, answered he, a character you have not yet perhaps observed. You have heard of battle-painters, have mentioned a battle-poet; but this is a battle critic. He is a fellow that lives in a government fo gentle, that though it fees him an enemy, fuffers his malice, because they know his impotence. He is to examine the weight of an advantage before the company will allow it. Greenbat was going on in his explanation, when Sir George England thought fit to take up the discourse in the

following manner:

Gentlemen, The action you are in fo great doubt to approve of is greater than ever has been performed in any age; and the value of it I observe from your disfatisfaction: For battle-critics are like all others; you are the more offended, the more you ought to be, and are convinced you ought to be, pleased. Had this engagement happened in the time of the old Romans, and fuch things been acted in their fervice, there would not be a foot of the wood which was pierced, but had been confecrated to some deity, or made memorable by the death of him who expired in it for the fike of his country. It had been faid on some monument at the entrance; Here the Duke of Argyle drew his fword, and faid, March. Here Webb, after having an accomplished fame for gallantry, exposed himself like a common soldier. Here, Rivert, who was wounded at the beginning of the day, and carried off as dead, returned to the field, and received his death. Medals had been flruck for our General's behaviour when he first came into the plain. Here was the fury of the action, and here the Hero stood as fearless as if invulnerable. Such certainly had been the cares of that State for their own honour, and in gratitude to their heroic subjects. But the wood intrenched, the the plain made more impassable than the wood; and all the difficulties opposed to the most gallant army, and most intrepid leaders that ever the sun shone upon, are treated by the talk of some in this room as objections to the merit of our General and our army: But, continued he, I leave all the examination of this matter, and a proper discourse on our sense of public actions, to my friend Mr. Bickerstaff; who may let beaus and gamesters rest, until he has examined into the reasons of men's being malecontents, in the only nation that suffers professed enemies to breathe in open air.

From my own Apartment, September 7.

The following Letters are fent to me from relations; and though I do not know who and who are intended, I publish them. I have only writ nonfense, if there is nothing in them; and done a good action, if they alarmany heedless men against the fraternity of the knights whom the Greeks call Ράσκαλς.

Mr. BICKERSTAFF,

"IT is taken very ill by several Gentlemen here, that you are so little vigilant, as to let the Dogs " run from their kennels to this place. Had you done " your duty, we should have had notice of their arrival; " but the Sharpers are now become so formidable here, " that they have divided themselves into Nobles and " Commons; Beau Bogg, Beau Pert, Rake, and Tallboy, " are of their upper house; broken Captains, ignorant " Attornies, and fuch other bankrupts from industrious " professions, compose their lower order. Among these " two fets of men, there happened here lately fome un-" happy differences. Elquire Humphry came down " among us with four hundred guineas: His raw ap-" pearance, and certain fignals in the good-natured " muscles of Humphry's countenance, alarmed the socie-" ties; for Sharpers are as skilful as beggars in physiog-" nomy, and know as well where to hope for plunder, " as the others to a x for alms. Pert was the man ex-" actly fitted for taking with Humpbry, as a fine Gen-E 6 " tleman;

"tleman; for a raw fool is ever enamoured with his contrary, a coxcomb; and a coxcomb is what the

" booby, who wants experience, and is unused to com-

" pany, regards as the first of men. He ever looks at him with envy, and would certainly be such, if he were not oppressed by his rusticity or bashfulness.

"There arose an entire friendship by this sympathy be-

tween Pert and Hamphry, which ended in stripping the latter. We now could see this forlorn youth for some

" days moneylefs, without fword, and one day, without . his hat, and with fecret melancholy pining for his " four box; the jest of the whole town, but most of " these who robbed him. " At last fresh bills came down, when immediately " their countenances cleared up, antient kindnesses and " familiarity renewed, and to dinner he was invited by " the fraternity. You are to know, that while he was " in his days of folitude, a Commoner, who was ex-" cluded from his share of the prey, had whispered the " Esquire, that he was bit, and cautioned him of ven-" turning again. However, hopes of recovering his " fouff-box, which was given him by his aunt, made " him fall to play after dinner; yet mindful of what " he was told, he faw fomething that provoked him to " tell them, they were a company of Sharpers. Pre-" fently Tallboy fell on him, and being too hard at fifty-" cuffs, drove him out of doors. The valiant Pert fol-" lowed, and kicked him in his turn; which the Efquire so refented, as being near his match; fo challenged " him: But differing about time and place, friends in-" terposed, for he had fill money left, and persuaded " him to ask pardon for provoking them to beat him, and they asked his for doing it. The House, confulting whence Humphry could have his infor-" mation, concluded it must be from some malicious " Commoner; and to be revenged, Beau Bogg watched " their haunts, and in a shop where some of them were " at play with ladies, shewed dice which he found, or e pretended to find, upon them; and declaring how " falfe they were, warned the company to take care who they played with. By his feeming candour, he de cleared his reputation at least to fools, and some filly " women & "women; but it was still blassed by the Esquire's story with thinking men: However, he gained a great point by it; for the next day he got the company shut up with himself and fellow-members, and robbed them at discretion.

" I cannot express to you with what indignation I " behold the noble spirit of Gentlemen degenerated to " that of private cut purfes. It is in vain to hope a re-" medy, whill fo many of the fraternity get and enjoy " estates of twenty, thirty, and fifty thousand pounds, " with impunity, creep into the best conversations; " and spread their infectious villainy through the nation, " while the leffer rogues, that rob for hunger or naked-" nefs, are facrificed by the blind, and, in this respect, " partial and desective law. Could you open mens " eyes against the occasion of all this, the great cor-" rupter of our manners and morality, the author of " more bankrupts than the war, and fure bane of all " industry, frugality, and good nature; in a word, of " all virtues; I mean, public or private play at cards " or dice; how willingly would I contribute my utmost, " and possibly fend you some memoirs of the lives and " politics of some of the fraternity of great figure, that " might be of use to you in setting this in a clear light " against next fession; that all who care for their coun-" try or posterity, and see the pernicious effects of such " a public vice, may endeavour its destruction by some " effectual laws. In concurrence to this good defign, " I remain

Eath, Aug. 30.

Your humble servant, &c

Mr. BICKERSTAFF,

Friday, Sept. 2.

"Heartily join with you in your laudable defign against the Myrmidons, as well as your late infinuations against Coxcombs of Fire; and I take this opportunity to congratulate you on the success of your labours, which I observed vesterday in one of the hottest Fire-men in town; who not only affects a foft smile, but was seen to be thrice contradicted, without shewing any sign of impatience. These, I fay,

" fay, fo happy beginnings promise fair, and on this " account I rejoice you have undertaken to unkennel " the curs; a work of fuch use, that I admire it so " long escaped your vigilance; and exhort you, by the " concern you have for the good people of England, to " pursue your defign: And that these vermin may not " flatter themselves that they pass undiscovered, I desire " you would acquaint Jack Haughty, that the whole fe-" cret of his bubbling his friend with the Savijs at the

Thatched-house is well known, as also his sweetening. " the knight, and I shall acknowledge the favour.

Your most humble servant, &c.

Nº 66. Saturday, September 10, 1709.

Will's Coffee-house, September 9.

HE subject of the discourse this evening was Eloquence and graceful Action. Lyfander, who is fomething particular in his way of thinking and fpeaking, told us, a man could not be eloquent without action: For the deportment of the body, the turn of the eye, and an apt found to every word that is uttered, must all conspire to make an accomplished speaker. Action in one that speaks in public, is the same thing as a good mien in ordinary life. Thus, as a certain infenfibility in the countenance recommends a fentence of humour and jest, so it must be a very lively consciousness that gives grace to great fentiments. The jest is to be a thing unexpected; therefore your undefigning manner is a beauty in expressions of mirth; but when you are to talk on a fet subject, the more you are moved yourfelf, the more you will move others.

There is, faid he, a remarkable example of that kind. Æschines, a famous orator of antiquity, had pleaded at Athens in a great cause against Demosthenes; but having

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lost it, retired to Rhodes: Eloquence was then the quality most admired among men, and the magistrates of that place, having heard he had a copy of the speech of Demosthenes, defired him to repeat both their pleadings. After his own, he recited also the oration of his antagonist. The people expressed their admiration of both, but more of that of Demosthenes. If you are, said he, thus touched with hearing only what that great orator faid, how would you have been affected had you feen him speak? for he who hears Demosthenes only, loses much the better part of the oration. Certain it is, that they, who speak gracefully, are very lamely represented in having their speeches read or repeated by unskilful people; for there is fomething native to each man, so inherent to his thoughts and fentiments, which it is hardly possible for another to give a true idea of. You may obierve in common talk, when a fentence of any man's is repeated, an acquaintance of his shall immediately obferve, "that is fo like him, methinks I fee how he " looked when he faid it."

But of all the people on the earth, there are none who puzzle me fo mu has the Clergy of Great Britain. who are, I believe, the most learned body of men now in the world; and yet this art of speaking, with the proper ornaments of voice and gesture, is wholly neglected among them; and I will engage, were a deaf man to behold the greater part of them preach, he would rather think they were reading the contents only of fome discourse they intended to make, than actually in the body of an oration, even when they are upon matters of fuch a nature, as one would believe it were impossible to

think of without emotion.

I own there are exceptions to this general observation, and that the Dean we heard the other day together is an orator. He has so much regard to his congregation, that he commits to his memory what he is to fay to them; and has so soft and graceful a behaviour, that it must attract your attention. His person, it is to be confessed, is no small recommendation; but he is to be highly commended for not losing that advantage; and adding to the propriety of speech, which might pass the criticism of Longinus, an action which would have been approved

approved by Demosthenes. He has a peculiar force in his way, and has many of his audience who could not be intelligent hearers of his discourse, were there not explanation as well as grace in his action. This art of his is used with the most exact and honest skill: He never attempts your passions until he has convinced your reason. All the objections, which he can form, are laid open and dispersed, before he uses the least vehemence in his fermon; but when he thinks he has your head, he very soon wins your heart; and never pretends to shew the beauty of holiness, until he hath convinced you of the truth of it.

Would every one of our clergymen be thus careful to recommend truth and virtue in their proper figures, and shew so much concern for them as to give them all the additional force they were able, it is not possible that nonsense should have so many hearers as you find it has in distenting congregations, for no reason in the world, but because it is spoken Extempore: For ordinary minds are wholly governed by their eyes and ears, and there is no way to come at their hearts, but by power over their

imaginations.

There is my friend and merry companion Daniel: He knows a great deal better than he speaks, and can form a proper discourse as well as any orthodox neighbour. But he knows very well, that to bawl out, My beloved! and the words grace! regeneration! fanctification! a new light! the day! the day! ay, my beloved, the day! or rather the night! the night is coming! and judgment will come, when we least think of it! And so forch. -He knows, to be vehement is the only way to come at his audience. Deniel, when he fees my friend Greenbat come in, can give a good hint, and cry our, This is only for the faints! the regenerated! By this force of action, though mixed with all the incoherence and ribuldry imaginable, Daniel can laugh at his diocelan, at d grow fat by voluntary subscription, while the parson of the parish goes to law for half his dues. Daniel will tell you, It is not the fhepherd, but the sheep with the bell, which the fleck fellows.

Another thing, very wonderful this learned body flould omit, is, learning to read; which is a most new

ceffary part of eloquence in one who is to ferve at the altar: For there is no man but must be sensible, that the lazy tone, and inarticulate sound of our common readers, depreciates the most proper form of words that were ever extant in any nation or language, to speak their own wants, or his power from whom we ask relief.

There cannot be a greater instance of the power of action than in little parson Dapper, who is the common relief to all the lazy pulpits in town. This fmart youth has a very good memory, a quick eye, and a clean handkerchief. Thus equipped, he opens his Text, shuts his book fairly, shews he has no notes in his Bible, opens both palms, and shews all is fair there too. Thus, with a decifive air, my young man goes on without hefitation; and though from the beginning to the end of his pretty discourie he has not used one proper gesture, yet at the conclusion the churchwarden pulls his gloves from off his hands; "Pray, who is this extraordinary young man?" Thus the force of action is such, that it is more prevalent, even when improper, than all the reason and argument in the world without it. This Gentleman concluded his discourse by faying, I do not doubt but if our preachers would learn to speak, and our readers to read, within fix months time, we should not have a Dissenter within a mile of a church in Great-Britain.

From my own Apartment, September 9.

I have a Letter from a young fellow who complains to me that he was bred a mercer, and is now just out of his time; but unfortunately (for he has no manner of education suitable to his present estate) an uncle has lest him one thousand pounds, per Annum. The young man is sensible, that he is so spruce, that he fears he shall never be genteel as long as he lives; but applies himself to me, to know what method to take to help his air, and be a fine Gentleman.

He fays, "that several of those ladies, who were for-"merly his customers, visit his mother on purpose to fall in his way, and sears he shall be obliged to marry gainst his will; for, says he, if any one of them should

" should ask me, I shall not be able to deny her. I am, " fays he further, utterly at a loss how to deal with " them; for though I was the most pert creature in the " world when I was foreman, and could hand a woman " of the first Quality to her coach as well as her own " gentleman usher, I am now quite out of my way, and " speechless in their company. They commend my " modesty to my face. No one scruples to say, I should " certainly make the best husband in the world, a man " of my fober education .- Mrs. Would-be watches all opportunities to be alone with me: Therefore, good " Mr. Bickerflaff, here are my writings inclosed; if you " can find any flaw in my title, so as it may go to the " next heir, who goes to St. James's coffee-house, and "White's, and could enjoy it, I should be extremely " well pleafed with two thousand pounds to fet up my " trade, and live in a way I know I should become, ra-" ther than be laughed at all my life among too good " company. If you could fend for my coufin, and per-" fuade him to take the effate on these terms, and let " no body know it, you would extremely oblige me."

Upon first fight, I thought this a very whimsical propolal; however, upon more mature confideration, I could not but admire the young Gentleman's prudence and good fense; for there is nothing so irksome as living in a way a man knows he does not become. I confulted Mr. Obadiah Greenhat on this occasion, and he is so well pleased with the man, that he has half a mind to take the estate himself; but upon second thoughts he proposed this expedient: I should be very willing, said he, to keep the effate where it is, if we could make the young man any way eafy; therefore I humbly propose, he should take to drinking for one half-year, and make a floven of him, and from thence begin his education a-new: For it is a maxim, that one who is ill-taught, is in a worfe condition, than he who is wholly ignorant; therefore a spruce Mercer is farther off the air of a fine Gentleman, than a downright clown. To make our patient any thing better, we must unmake him what he is. I indeed proposed to flux him, but Greenhat answered, that if he recovered, he would be as prim and feat as ever he was: Therefore he would have it his way, and our friend is to drink until he is carbuncled and tun-bellied; after which we will fend him down to smoke, and be buried with his ancestors in Derbyshire. I am indeed defirous he should have his life in the estate, because he has such a just sense of himself and his abilities, as to know that it is an unhappiness to him to be a man of fortune.

This youth feems to understand, that a Gentleman's life is that of all others the hardest to pass through with propriety of behaviour; for though he has a support without art or labour, yet his manner of enjoying that circumstance is a thing to be considered; and you see among men, who are honoured with the common appellation of Gentlemen, fo many contradictions to that character, that it is the utmost ill-fortune to bear it: For which reason I am obliged to change the circumstances of several about this town. Harry Lacker is so very exact in his dress, that I shall give his estate to his younger brother, and make him a dancing-master. Nokes Lightfoot is so nimble, and values himself so much upon it, that I have thoughts of making him huntiman to a pack of beagles, and give his land to somebody that will llav upon it.

Now I am upon the topic of becoming what we enjoy, I forbid all persons who are not of the first Quality, or who do not bear some important office that requires so much distinction, to go to Hyde-Park with fix horses; for I cannot but effeem it the highest insolence. Therefore hereafter no man shall do it merely because he is able, without any other pretention. But, what may ferve all purposes quite as well, it shall be allowed all such who think riches the chief distinction, to appear in the Ring with two horses only, and a rent roll hanging out of each fide of their coach. This is a thought of Mr. Greenhat's, who defigns very foon to publish a sumptuary discourse upon the subject of equipage, wherein he will give us rules on that subject, and affign the proper duties and qualifications of masters and servants, as well as that of husbands and wives; with a treatise of economy without doors, or the complete art of appearing in the world.

world. This will be very useful to all who are suddenly rich, or are assumed of being poor,

- Sunt certa piacula, quæ te Ter pure lecto poterunt recreare libello.

Hor. Ep. 1. 1. 1. ver. 26.

And, like a charm, to th' upright mind and pure, If thrice read o'er, will yield a certain cure.

I have notice of a new pack of dogs, of quite another fort than hitherto mentioned. I have not an exact account of their way of hunting, the following Letter giving only a bare notice of them.

SIR,

September 7.

HERE are another pack of Dogs to be disposed of, who kennel about Charing Cross, at the old " Fat Dog's at the corner of Buckingbam Court, near " Spring Garden: Two of them are faid to be whelped " in Alfatia, now in ruins; but they, with the rest of " the pack, are as pernicious, as if the old kennel had " never been broken down. The Antients distinguish-" ed this fort of curs by the name of Hæredipetes, the " most pernicious of all biters, for feizing young heirs, " especially when their estates are intailed; whom they " reduce by one good bite to fuch a condition, that they " cannot ever after come to the use of their teeth, or " get smelling of a crust. You are desired to dispose of thefe as foon as you can, that the breed may not in-" crease; and your care in tying them up will be ac-" knowledged by,

Sir,

Your humble fervant,

Philanthi ofos.

St. James's Coffee-house, September 9.

We have received Letters from the Duke of Marlborough's camp, which bring us farther particulars of the great and glorious victory obtained over the enemy on the eleventh instant, N. S. The number of the wounded and prisoners is much greater than was expected from our first account. The day was doubtful until after twelve of the clock; but the enemy made little refisfance after their first line on the left began to give way. exact narration of the whole affair is expected next post. The French have had two days allowed them to bury their dead, and carry off their wounded men, upon parole. Those regiments of Great-Britain which suffered most are ordered into garrison, and fresh troops commanded to march into the field. The States have also directed troops to march out of the towns, to relieve those who lost so many men in attacking the second intrenchment of the French in the plain between Sart and fansart.

Nº 67. Tuesday, September 13, 1709.

From my own Apartment, September 12.

O man can conceive, until he comes to try it, how great a pain it is to be a public-spirited person. I am sure I am unable to express to the world what great anxiety I have suffered, to see of how little benefit my Lucubrations have been to my fellow-subjects. Men will go on in their own way in spite of all my labour. I gave Mr. Didapper a private reprimand for wearing red-heeled shoes, and at the same time was so indulgent as to connive at him for sources days, because I would give him the wearing of them out; but after all this, I am informed he appeared yesterday with a new pair

pair of the same fort. I have no better success with Mr. What-d'ye-call, as to his buttons: Stentor still roars; and box and dice rattle as loud as they did before I writ against them. Partridge walks about at noon-day, and Esculapius thinks of adding a new lace to his livery. However, I must still go on in laying these enormities before mens eyes, and let them answer for going on in their practice.

My province is much larger than at first sight men would imagine, and I shall lose no part of my jurisdiction, which extends not only to suturity, but also is retrospect to things past; and the behaviour of persons, who have long ago acted their parts, is as much liable to my examination, as that of my own contemporaries.

In order to put the whole race of mankind in their proper distinctions, according to the opinion their cohabitants conceived of them, I have with very much care, and depth of meditation, thought fit to erect a chamber of Fame; and established certain rules, which are to be observed in admitting members into this illustrious society.

In this chamber of Fame there are to be three tables, but of different lengths; the first is to contain exactly twelve persons; the second, twenty; and the third, an hundred. This is reckoned to be the sull number of those who have any competent share of Fame. At the first of these tables are to be placed in their order the twelve most samous persons in the world; not with regard to the things they are samous for, but according to the degree of their Fame, whether in valour, wit, or learning. Thus, if a scholar be more samous than a soldier, he is to sit above him. Neither must any preference be given to virtue, if the person be not equally samous.

When the first table is filled, the next in renown must be seated at the second, and so on in like manner to the number of twenty; as also in the same order at the third, which is to hold an hundred. At these tables, no regard is to be had to seniority: For if Julius Casar shall be judged more samous than Romulus and Scipio, he must have the precedence. No person who has not been dead an hundred years, must be offered to a place at any of these tables: And because this is altogether a lay society,

and

and that facred persons move upon greater motives than that of Fame, no persons celebrated in Holy Writ, or any ecclesiastical men whatsoever, are to be introduced here.

At the lower end of the room is to be a fide-table for persons of great Fame, but dubious existence; such as Hercules, Theseus, Eneas, Achilles, Hector, and others. But because it is apprehended, that there may be great contention about precedence, the proposer humbly defires the opinion of the Learned towards his assistance in placing every person according to his rank, that none may have just occasion of offence.

The merits of the cause shall be judged by plurality

of voices.

For the more impartial execution of this important affair, it is defired, that no man will offer his favourite Hero, Soldier, or Poet; and that the Learned will be pleafed to fend to Mr. Bickerstaff, at Mr. Morphew's near Stationers-ball, their feveral lists for the first table only, and in the order they would have them placed; after which the proposer will compare the several lists, and make another for the public, wherein every name shall be ranked according to the voices it has had. Under this chamber is to be a dark vault for the same number of persons of evil Fame.

It is humbly submitted to consideration, whether the project would not be better if the persons of true Fame meet in a middle room, those of dubious existence in an upper room, and those of evil Fame in a lower dark room.

It is to be noted, that no historians are to be admitted at any of these tables; because they are appointed to conduct the several persons to their seats, and are to be made use of as ushers to the assemblies.

I call upon the learned world to fend me their affistance towards this defign, it being a matter of too great moment for any one person to determine. But I do assure them, their lists shall be examined with great sidelity, and those that are exposed to the Public, made with all the caution imaginable.

In the mean time, while I wait for these lists, I am employed in keeping people in a right way, to avoid the contrary to Fame and Applause, to wir, Blame and

Derifion.

Derision. For this end, I work upon that useful project of the penny-post, by the benefit of which it is proposed, that a charitable fociety be established: From which fociety there shall go every day circular Letters to all parts within the bills of mortality, to tell people of their faults in a friendly and private manner, whereby they may know what the world thinks of them, before it is declared to the world that they are thus faulty. This method cannot fail of univerfal good confequences: For it is further added, that they who will not be reformed by it, must be contented to see the several Letters printed, which were not regarded by them, that when they will not take private reprehension, they may be tried further by a public one. I am forry, I am obliged to print the following epiftles of that kind to some persons, and the more, because they are of the Fair Sex. This went on Friday last to a very fine Lady.

MADAM,

" I AM highly fensible, that there is nothing of so tender a nature as the reputation and conduct of " Ladies; and that when there is the least stain got into " their Fame, it is hardly ever to be washed out. When " I have faid this, you will believe I am extremely con-" cerned, to hear at every visit I make, that your man-" ner of wearing your hair is a mere affectation of beauty, " as well as that your neglect of powder has been a " common evil to your Sex. It is to you an advantage " to thew that abundance of fine treffes: But I befeech " you to confider, that the force of your beauty, and the " imitation of you, costs Eleonora great sums of money " to her tire-woman for false locks, besides what is al-" lowed to her maid for keeping the secret, that the is " gray. I must take leave to add to this admonition, " that you are not to reign above four months and odd "days longer. Therefore I must defire you to raile and " friz your hair a little, for it is downright insolence to " be thus handsome without art; and you will forgive me " for intreating you to do now out of compassion, what " you must soon do out of necessity. I am, Madam,

Your most obedient, and most humble servant.

This person dresses just as she did before I writ; as does also the Lady to whom I addressed the following Billet the same day.

MADAM,

Nº 67.

ET me beg of you to take off the patches at the lower end of your left cheek, and I will allow two more under your left eye, which will contribute more to the fymmetry of your face; except you would please to remove the ten black atoms on your Ladyfhip's chin, and wear one large patch instead of them.
If so, you may properly enough retain the theee patches abovementioned. I am, &c."

This, I thought, had all the civility and reason in the world in it; but whether my letters are intercepted, or whatever it is, the Lady patches as she used to do. It is to be observed by all the charitable society, as an instruction in their epistles, that they tell people of nothing but what is in their power to mend. I shall give another instance of this way of writing: Two sisters in Fsex-street are eternally gaping out of the window, as if they knew not the value of time, or would call in companions. Upon which I writ the following line:

Dear Creatures,

" On the receipt of this, shut your casements."

But I went by yesterday, and found them still at the window. What can a man do in this case? but go on, and wrap himself up in his own integrity, with satisfaction only in this melancholy truth, that virtue is its own reward; and that if no one is the better for his admonitions, yet he is himself the more virtuous in that he gave those advices.

St. James's Coffee-house, September 12.

Letters of the thirteenth instant from the Duke of Marlborough's camp at Havre advise, that the necessary dispositions were made for opening the trenches before Vol. II.

Mons. The direction of the fiege is to be committed to the Prince of Orange, who defigned to take his post accordingly with thirty battalions and thirty fquadrons on the day following. On the feventeenth Lieutenant-General Cadogan fet out for Bruffels, to haften the ammunition and artillery which is to be employed in this enterprize; and the confederate army was extended from the Hailne to the Trouille, in order to cover the fiege. The loss of the confederates in the late battle is not exactly known; but it appears by a lift transmitted to the States-General, that the number of the killed and wounded in their fervice amounts to above eight thoufand. It is computed, that the English have lost fifteen hundred men, and the rest of the Allies above five thoufand, including the wounded. The States-General have taken the most speedy and effectual measures for reinforcing their troops; and it is expected, that in eight or ten days the army will be as numerous as before the battle. The affairs in Italy afford us nothing remarkable; only that it is hoped, the difference between the Courts of Vienna and Turin will be speedily accommodated. Letters from Poland prefent us with a near prospect of seeing King Augustus re-established on the throne, all parties being very industrious to reconcile themselves to his interests.

Will's Coffee-house, September 12.

Of all the pretty arts in which our modern Writers excel, there is not any which is more to be recommended
to the imitation of beginners, than the skill of Transition from one subject to another. I know not whether
I make myself well understood; but it is certain, that the
way of stringing a discourse, used in the Mercury Gallant,
the Gentleman's Journal, and other learned writings; not
to mention how naturally things present themselves to
such as harangue in pulpits, and other occasions which
occur to the Learned; are methods worthy commendation. I shall attempt this style myself in sew lines.
Suppose I were discoursing upon the King of Saveden's
passing the Boristoness. The Boristoness is a great river,
and puts me in mine of the Danube and the Rhine. The

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Danube I cannot think of, without reflecting on that unhappy Prince who had fuch fair territories on the banks of it; I mean the Duke of Bawaria, who by our last Letters is retired from Mons. Mons is as strong a fortification as any which has no citadel: And places which are not completely fortified, are, methinks, lesions to Princes, that they are not omnipotent, but liable to the strokes of fortune. But as all Princes are subject to such calamities, it is the part of men of letters to guard them from the observations of all small Writers: For which reason, I shall conclude my present remarks by publishing the following advertisement, to be taken notice of by all who dwell in the suburbs of learning.

"Whereas the King of Sweden has been so unfortunate as to receive a wound in his heel; we do hereby prohibit all epigrammatists in either language and

- both Universities, as well as all other Poets, of what denomination soever, to make any mention of Achilles
- " having received his death's wound in the fame part.
 "We do likewise forbid all comparisons in Cossee"houses between Alexander the Great and the said King
- " of Sweden, and from making any parallels between the death of Patkul and Philotas; we being very ap-
- " prehensive of the reflections that feveral politicians
- "have ready by them to produce on this occasion, and being willing, as much as in us lies, to free the town
- " from all impertinencies of this nature."

Nº 68. Thursday, September 15, 1709.

From my own Apartment, September 14.

THE progress of our endeavours will of necessity be very much interrupted, except the learned world will please to send their lists to the chamber of Fame with all expedition. There is nothing can so much contribute to create a noble emulation in our

youth, as the honourable mention of such whose actions have outlived the injuries of time, and recommended themselves so far to the world, that it is become Learning to know the least circumstance of their affairs. It is a great incentive to see, that some men have raised themselves so highly above their fellow-creatures, that the lives of ordinary men are spent in enquiries after the particular actions of the most illustrious. True it is, that without this impulse to Fame and reputation, our industry would stagnate, and that lively defire of pleasing each other die away. This opinion was so established in the heathen world, that their sense of living appeared insipid, except their Being was enlivened with a consciousness that they were esteemed by the rest of the world.

Upon examining the proportion of men's Fame for my Table of Twelve, I thought it no ill way, (fince I had laid it down for a rule, that they were to be ranked fimply as they were famous, without regard to their virtue) to ask my fister Jenny's advice; and particularly mentioned to her the name of Aristotle. She immediately told me, he was a very great Scholar, and that the had read him at the boarding-school. She certainly means a trifle fold by the hawkers called Aristotle's Problems. But this raised a great scruple in me, whether a Fame increased by imposition of others is to be added to his account, or that these excrescencies, which grow out of his real reputation, and give encouragement to others to pass things under the covert of his name, should be confidered in giving him his feat in the chamber? This punctilio is referred to the Learned. In the mean time, so ill-natured are mankind, that I believe I have games already fent me sufficient to fill up my lists for the dark room, and every one is apt enough to fend in their accounts of ill deservers. This malevolence does not proceed from a real diflike of virtue, but a diabolical prejudice against it, which makes men willing to destroy what they care not to imitate. Thus you fee the greatest characters among your acquaintance, and those you live with, are traduced by all below them in virtue, who never mention them but with an exception. However, I believe I shall not give the world much trouble about filling my Tables for those of evil Fame; for I have Come

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fome thoughts of clapping up the Sharpers there as fail

as I can lay hold of them.

At present, I am employed in looking over the several notices which I have received of their manner of dexterity, and the way at dice of making all Rugg, as the cant is. The whole art of fecuring a die has lately been fent me, by a person who was of the fraternity, but is disabled by the loss of a finger; by which means he cannot practife that trick as he used to do. But I am very much at a loss how to call some of the fair Sex. who are accomplices with the Knights of Industry; for my metaphorical Dogs are easily enough understood; but the feminine gender of Dogs has so harsh a found, that we know not how to name it. But I am credibly informed, that there are female Dogs as voracious as the males, and make advances to young fellows, without any other defign but coming to a familiarity with their purses. I have also long lists of persons of condition, who are certainly of the fame regimen with these Banditti, and instrumental to their cheats upon undifcerning men of their own rank. These add their good reputation to carry on the impostures of others, whose very names would else be defence enough against falling into their hands. But for the honour of our nation, these shall be unmentioned; provided we hear no more of fuch practices, and that they shall not from henceforward fuffer the fociety of fuch, as they know to be the common enemies of order, discipline, and virtue. If it appear that they go on in encouraging them, they must be proceeded against according to the several rules of history, where all is to be laid before the world with impartiality, and without respect to persons.

" So let the stricken deer go weep."

Will's Coffee-house, September 14.

I find left here for me the following Epifle.

SIR,

family of Trubies, wherein you observe, that there are some who fall into laughter out of a certain benevolence in their temper, and not out of the ordinary motive, viz. contempt, and triumph over the imperfections of others; I have conceived a good idea of your knowledge of mankind. And, as you have a tragi-comic genius, I beg the favour of you to give us your thoughts of a quite different effect, which also is caused by other motives than what are commonly taken notice of. What I would have you treat of, is the cause of shedding tears. I desire you would discuss it a little, with observations upon the various occasions which provoke us to that expression of our concern, &c."

To obey this complaifant Gentleman, I know no way fo short as examining the various touches of my own bosom, on several occurrences in a long life to the evening of which I am arrived, after as many various incidents as any body has met with. I have often reslected, that there is a great similitude in the motions of the heart in mirth and in sorrow; and I think the usual occasion of the latter, as well as the former, is something which is sudden and unexpected. The mind has not a sufficient time to recollect its force, and immediately gushes into tears before we can utter ourselves by speech or complaint. The most notorious causes of these drops from our eyes are pity, forrow, joy, and reconciliation.

The Fair Sex, who are made of man and not of earth, have a more delicate humanity than we have; and pity is the most common cause of their tears: For as we are inwardly composed of an aptitude to every circumstance of life, and every thing that befalls any one person might have happened to any other of human race; self-

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" both

love, and a fense of the pain we ourselves should suffer in the circumstances of any whom we pity, is the cause of that compassion. Such a reslection in the breast of a woman, immediately inclines her to tears; but in a man, it makes him think how such a one ought to act on that occasion, suitably to the dignity of his nature. Thus a woman is ever moved for those whom she hears lament, and a man for those whom he observes to suffer in silence. It is a man's own behaviour in the circumstances he is under, which procures him the esteem of others, and not merely the affliction itself which demands our pity; for we never give a man that passion which he falls into for himself. He that commends himself never purchases our applause; nor he who bewails himself, our pity.

Going through an alley the other day, I observed a noify impudent beggar bawl out, that he was wounded in a merchant-man; that he had loft his poor limbs, and fhewed a leg clouted up. All that passed by made what hafte they could out of his fight and hearing; but a poor fellow at the end of the passage, with a rusty coat, a melancholy air, and foft voice, defired them to look upon a man not used to beg. The latter received the charity of almost every one that went by. The strings of the heart, which are to be touched to give us compassion, are not so played on but by the finest hand. We fee in tragical representations, it is not the pomp of language, nor the magnificence of drefs, in which the parfion is wrought, that touches fenfible Spirits; but fomething of a plain and fimple nature which breaks in upon our Souls, by that fympathy which is given us for our mutual good-will and fervice.

In the tragedy of Macbeth, where Wilks acts the part of a man whose samily has been murdered in his absence, the wildness of his passion, which is run over in a torrent of calamitous circumstances, does but raise my spirits, and give the alarm: But when he skilfully seems to be out of breath, and is brought too low to say more; and upon a second resection cries only, wiping his eyes, "What, both children! Both, both my children gone!"—There is no resisting a forrow which seems to have cast about for all the reasons possible for its consolation, but has no resource. "There is not one left; but both,

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" both are murdered!" fuch sudden starts from the thread of the discourse, and a plain sentiment expressed in an artless way, are the irrefistible strokes of eloquence and poetry. The same great master, Shakespear, can afford us inflances of all the places where our Souls are accessible; and ever commands our tears. But it is to be observed, that he draws them from some unexpected fource, which feems not wholly of a piece with the difcourfe. Thus, when Brutus and Cuffius had a debate in the tragedy of Cafar, and rose to warm language against each other, infomuch that it had almost come to fomething that might be fatal, until they recollected themfelves: Brutus does more than make an apology for the heat he had been in, by faying, "Porcia is dead" ---Here Cassus is all tenderness, and ready to dissolve, when he confiders, that the mind of his friend had been employed on the greatest affliction imaginable, when he had been adding to it by a debate on trifles; which makes him in the anguish of his heart cry out, " How scaped " I killing when I thus provoked you?" This is an incident which moves the Soul in all its fentiments; and Cassus's heart was at once touched with all the fost pangs of pity, remorfe, and reconciliation. It is faid indeed by Horace, " If you would have me weep, you must first " weep yourself." This is not literally true; for it would have been as rightly faid, if we observe nature, That I shall certainly weep, if you do not: But what is intended by that expression is, That it is not possible to give passion, except you shew that you suffer yourself. Therefore the true art feems to be, that when you would have the perion you represent pitied, you must shew him at once in the highest grief, and struggling to bear it with decency and patience. In this case, we figh for him, and give him every groan he suppresses.

I remember, when I was young enough to follow the sports of the field, I have more than once rode off at the death of a deer, when I have seen the animal in an affliction which appeared human, without the least noise, let fall tears when he was reduced to extremity; and I have thought of the forrow I saw him in, when his haunch came to the table. But our tears are not given only to objects of pity, but the mind has recourse to that relief

in all occasions which give us much emotion. Thus, to be apt to shed tears is a sign of a great as well as little fpirit. I have heard fay, the present Pope never passes through the people, who always kneel in crouds, and ask his benediction, but the tears are seen to flow from his eyes. This must proceed from an imagination, that he is the father of all those people; and that he is touched with so extensive a benevolence, that it breaks out into a passion of tears. You see friends, who have been long absent, transported in the same manner: A thousand little images croud upon them at their meeting, as all the joys and griefs they have known during their feparation; and in one hurry of thought, they conceive how they should have participated in those occasions; and weep, because their minds are too full to wait the flow expression of words.

Hic lacrymis vitam damus, & miserescimus ultro. Virg. Æn. 2. v. 145.

With tears the wretch confirm'd his tale of woe; And fost-ey'd pity pleaded for the foe. R. WYNNE.

"There is lately broke loofe from the London pack, a very tall dangerous biter. He is now at the Bath, and it is feared will make a damnable havock amongst the game. His manner of biting is new, and he is called the Top. He secures one die betwixt his two singers: The other is fixed, by the help of a samous wax, invented by an apothecary, since a gamester: a little of which he puts upon his foresinger, and that holds the die in the box at his devotion. Great sums have been lately won by these ways; but it is hoped, that this hint of his manner of cheating will open the eyes of many who are every day imposed upon.

"There is now in the press, and will be suddenly published, a book entitled, An appendix to the Contempt of the Clergy; wherein will be set forth at large, that all our diffentions are owing to the laziness of persons in the sacred ministry, and that none of the present schisms could have crept into the slock, but by the negligence of the pastors. There is a digression

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- in this treatife, proving, that the pretences made by
- the priesthood, from time to time, that the church was in danger, is only a trick to make the laity pas.
- " fionate for that, of which they themselves have been negligent. The whole concludes with an exhortation
- to the Clergy, to the study of eloquence, and practice
- of piety, as the only method to support the highest of
- " all honours, that of a Priest, who lives and acts ac-
- " cording to his character."

N° 69. Saturday, September 17, 1709.

Nos facere, à vulgo longe latéque remotos?

Hor. Sat. 6. l. 1. v. 17.

But how shall we, who differ far and wide From the mere vulgar, this great point decide?

FRANCIS*

From my own Apartment, September 16.

T is, as far as it relates to our prefent Being, the great end of education to raise ourselves above the Vulgar; but what is intended by the vulgar is not, methinks, enough understood. In me, indeed, that word raises a quite different idea from what it usually does in others; but perhaps that proceeds from my being old, and beginning to want the relish of such satisfactions as are the ordinary entertainment of men. However, such as my opinion is in this case, I will speak it; because it is possible that turn of thought may be received by others, who may reap as much satisfaction from it as I do myself.

It is to me a very great meanness, and something much below a philosopher, which is what I mean by a Gentleman, to rank a man among the vulgar for the

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condition of life he is in, and not according to his behaviour, his thoughts, and fentiments, in that conditon. For if a man be loaded with riches and honours, and in that state of life has thoughts and inclinations below the meanest artificer; is not such an artificer, who within his power is good to his friends, moderate in his demands for his labour, and chearful in his occupation, very much fuperior to him who lives for no other end but to serve himself, and assumes a preference in all his words and actions to those, who act their part with much more grace than himself? Epictetus has made use of the similitude of a stage-play to human life with much spirit. It is not, fays he, to be confidered among the actors, who is Prince, or who is Beggar, but who acts Prince or Beggar best. The circumstance of life should not be that which gives us place, but our behaviour in that circumstance is what should be our folid distinction. Thus, a wife man should think no man above him or below him, any further than it regards the outward order or discipline of the world: For if we conceive too great an idea of the eminence of our superiors, or subordination of our inferiors, it will have an ill effect upon our behaviour to both. He who thinks no man above him but for his virtue, none below him but for his vice, can never be obsequious or assuming in a wrong place; but will frequently emulate men in rank below him, and pity those about him.

This fense of mankind is so far from a levelling principle, that it only sets us upon a true basis of distinction, and doubles the merit of such as become their condition. A man in power, who can, without the ordinary prepossessions which stop the way to the true knowledge and service of mankind, overlook the little distinctions of fortune, raise obscure merit, and discountenance successful indesert, has, in the minds of knowing men, the figure of an angel rather than a man; and is above the rest of men in the highest character he can be, even that of their benefactor.

Turning my thoughts, as I was taking my pipe this evening, after this manner, it was no small delight to me to receive advice from Felicia, that Eboracensis was appointed a governor of one of their plantations. As I

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am a great lover of mankind, I took part in the happiness of that people who were to be governed by one of fo great humanity, justice, and honour. Eboracensis has read all the schemes which writers have formed of government and order, and been long converfant with men who have the reins in their hands; fo that he can very well diffinguish between chimerical and practical politics. It is a great bleffing, when men have to deal with fuch different characters in the same species as those of freemen and flaves, that they who command have a just fense of human nature itself, by which they can temper the haughtiness of the master, and soften the servitude of the flave. He tibi erunt artes. This is the notion with which those of the plantation receive Eboracensis: And as I have cast his nativity, I find there will be a record made of this person's administration; and on that part of the shore from whence he embarks to return from his government, there will be a monument with these words: " Here the people wept, and took leave of " Eboracensis, the first governor our mother Felicia sent, " who, during his command here, believed himself her " subject."

White's Chocolate-house, September 16.

The following Letter wants such sudden dispatch, that all things else must wait for this time.

SIR, Sept. 13, Equal day and night.

THERE are two Ladies, who, having a good opinion of your taste and judgment, desire you to make use of them in the following particular, which perhaps you may allow very extraordinary. The two Ladies before mentioned have, a cousiderable time since, contracted a more sincere and constant friendship, than their adversaries the men will allow consistent with the frailty of semale nature; and, being from a long acquaintance convinced of the perfect agreement of their tempers, have thought upon an expedient to prevent their separation, and

e cannot think any so effectual (since it is common for

" love to destroy friendship) as to give up both their " liberties to the same person in marriage. The Gen-" tleman they have pitched upon is neither well-bred nor " agreeable, his understanding moderate, and his per-" fon never defigned to charm women; but having fo " much felf-interest in his nature, as to be satisfied with " making double contracts, upon condition of receiving " double fortunes; and most men being so far sensible of the uneafiness that one woman occasions; they " think him, for these reasons, the most likely person of their acquaintance to receive these proposals. "Upon all other accounts, he is the last man either of " them would chuse, yet for this preferable to all the " rest. They defire to know your opinion the next " post, resolving to defer farther proceeding, until they " have received it. I am,

Sir,

your unknown,

unthought of,

humble fervant,

Bridget Eitherside.

This is very extraordinary; and much might be objected by me, who am something of a civilian, to the case of two marrying the same man: But these Ladies are, I perceive, Free-thinkers; and therefore I shall speak only to the prudential part of this design, merely as a philosopher, without entering into the merit of it in the ecclesiastical or civil law. These constant friends, Piladea and Orestea, are at a loss to preserve their friendship from the encroachments of love; for which end they have resolved upon a fellow who cannot be the object of affection or esteem to either, and consequently cannot rob one of the place each has in her friend's heart. But in all my reading, (and I have read all that the Sages of love have writ,) I have found the greatest danger in jealousy. The Ladies, indeed, to avoid this passion, chuse

chuse a sad fellow; but if they would be advised by me, they had better have each her worthless man; otherwise, he that was despicable while he was indifferent to them, will become valuable when he seems to prefer one to the other.

I remember in the history of Don Quixote of la Manca, there is a memorable passage which opens to us the weakness of our nature in such particulars. The Don. falls into discourse with a Gentleman whom he calls " the knight of the Green Cassock," and is invited to his house. When he comes there, he runs into discourse and panegyric upon the economy, the government, and order of his family, the education of his children; and laftly, on the fingular wisdom of him who disposes things with that exactness. The Gentleman makes a foliloguy to himself, O irrefistible power of flattery! Though I know this is a madman, I cannot help being taken with his applause. The Ladies will find this much more true in the case of their lover; and the woman he most likes will certainly be more pleased, she whom he slights, more offended, than she can imagine before she has tried. Now I humbly propose, that they both marry coxcombs whom they are fure they cannot like, and then they may be pretty secure against the change of affection, which they fear; and, by that means, preferving the temperature under which they now write, enjoy, during life, " Equal day and night."

St. James's Coffee-house, September 16.

There is no manner of News; but people now spend their time in coffee-houses in reflections upon the particulars of the late glorious day, and collecting the several parts of the action, as they are produced in letters from private hands, or notices given to us by accounts in public Papers. A pleasant Gentleman, alluding to the great sences through which we pierced, said this evening, the French thought themselves on the right side of the hedge, but it proved otherwise. Mr. Kidney, who has long conversed with, and silled tea for, the most consummate politicians, was pleased to give me an account of this piece of ribaldry; and desired me on that

occasion to write a whole paper on the subject of valour, and explain how that quality, which must be possessed by whole armies, is fo highly preferable in one man rather than another; and how the same actions are but mere acts of duty in some, and instances of the most heroic virtue in others. He advises me not to fail, in this discourse, to mention the gallantry of the Prince of Nassau in his last engagement; who, when a battalion made a halt in the face of the enemy, fnatched the colours out of the hands of the Enfign, and planted them just before the line of the enemy, calling to that battalion to take care of their colours, if they had no regard to him. Mr. Kidney has my promise to obey him in this particular, on the first occasion that offers.

" Mr. Bickerstaff is now compiling exact accounts of the pay of the Militia, and the commission-officers under the respective lieutenancies of Great-Britain; in " the first place, of those of London and Westminster; and " in regard that there are no common foldiers, but all 46 house-keepers, or representatives of house-keepers in "these bodies, the sums raised by the officers shall be " looked into; and their fellow-foldiers, or rather fel-" low-travellers from one part of the town to the other,

of not defrauded of the ten pounds allowed for the fub-

" fistence of the troops.

"Whereas not very long fince, at a tavern between " Fleet-Bridge and Charing-Cross, some certain polite "Gentlemen thought fit to perform the Bacchanalian exercises of devotion by dancing without clothes on, " after the manner of the Pra-Adamites: This is to cer-" tify those persons, that there is no manner of wit or " humour in the faid practice; and that the beadles of the parish are to be at their next meeting, where it is " to be examined, whether they are arrived at want of se feeling, as well as want of shame?

"Whereas a chapel-clerk was lately taken in a garas ret on a flock bed with two of the fair Sex, who are of usually employed in fifting cinders: This is to let is him know, that if he perfifts in being a scandal both " to laity and clergy, as being as it were both and neist ther, the names of the nymphs who were with him 66 (hall) fhall be printed; therefore he is desired, as he tenders

" the reputation of his ladies, to repent.

"Mr. Bickerstaff has received information, that an eminent and noble preacher in the chief congregation

of Great-Britain, for fear of being thought guilty of Presbyterian fervency and extemporary prayer, lately

" read his, before fermon; but the fame advices ac"knowledging that he made the congregation large

" amends by the fhortness of his discourse, it is thought

" fit to make no further observation upon it."

Nº 70. Tuesday, September 20, 1709.

Quicquid agunt homines—nostri farrago libelli.
Juv. Sat. 1. v. 85.

Whatever good is done, whatever ill——By human kind, shall this collection fill.

From my own Apartment, September 19.

HE following Letter, in profecution of what I have lately afferted, has urged that matter so much better than I had, that I insert it as I received it. These testimonials are customary with us learned men, and sometimes are suspected to be written by the Author; but I fear no one will suspect me of this.

SIR, London, Sept. 15, 1709.

AVING read your Lucubrations of the tenth instant, I cannot but entirely agree with you in your notion of the scarcity of men who can either read or speak. For my part, I have lived these thirty

" years in the world, and yet have observed but very few who could do either in any tolerable manner;

among which few, you must understand that I reckon myself,

" myself. How far eloquence, set off with the proper " ornaments of voice and gesture, will prevail over the " passions, and how cold and unaffecting the best ora-" tion in the world would be without them, there are " two remarkable instances in the case of Ligarius, and " that of Milo. Cafar had condemned Ligarius. He " came indeed to hear what might be faid; but think-" ing himself his own master, resolved not to be biassed " by any thing Cicero could fay in his behalf: But in " this he was mistaken; for when the Orator began to " fpeak, the Hero is moved, he is vanquished, and at " length the criminal absolved. It must be observed, that this famous Orator was less renowned for his cou-" rage than his eloquence; for though he came, at ano-"ther time, prepared to defend Milo with one of the " best orations that antiquity has produced; yet being " ferzed with a fudden fear by feeing some armed men " furrounding the Forum, he faltered in his speech, and " became unable to exert that irrefistible force and " beauty of action which would have faved his client, " and for want of which he was condemned to banish-" ment. As the fuccess the former of these orations " met with, appears chiefly owing to the life and grace-" ful manner with which it was recited, (for fome there " are who think it may be read without teansport) so " the latter feems to have failed of fuccess for no other " reason, but because the Orator was not in a condition " to fet it off with those ornaments. It must be con-" fessed, that artful found will with the croud prevail " even more than fense; but those who are malters of " both, will ever gain the admiration of all their hearers: " And there is, I think, a very natural account to be " given of this matter; for the fensation of the head and " heart are caused in each of these parts by the outward " organs of the eye and ear: That therefore which is " conveyed to the understanding and passions by only " one of these organs, will not affect us so much as that " which is transmitted through both. I cannot but " think your charge is just against a great part of the " learned Clergy of Great-Britain, who deliver the most " excellent discourses with such coldness and indiffer-" ence, that it is no great wonder the unintelligent " Many

" Many of their congregations fall asleep. Thus it " happens that their orations meet with a quite contrary " fate to that of Demoflhenes you mentioned; for as that " loft much of its beauty and force, by being repeated to the magistrates of Rhodes without the winning ac-" tion of that great Orator; fo the performances of these "Gentlemen never appear with fo little grace, and to " fo much difadvantage, as when delivered by them-" felves from the pulpit. Hippocrates, being fent for to " a patient in this city, and having felt his pulse, en-" quired into the fymptoms of his distemper; and find-" ing that it proceeded in great measure for want of " fleep, advises his patient with an air of gravity to be " carried to church to hear a fermon, not doubting but " that it would dispose him for the rest he wanted. If " fome of the rules Horace gives for the theatre were, of not improperly, applied to our pulpits, we should " not hear a fermon prescribed as a good opiate.

Primum ipse tibi-

Hor. Ars Poet. ver. 102.

If you would have me weep, begin the flrain.

FRANCIS.

"A man must himself express some concern and affection in delivering his discourse, if he expects his
auditory should interest themselves in what he proposes. For otherwise, notwithstanding the dignity
and importance of the subject he treats of; notwith
flanding the weight and argument of the discourse itfelf; yet too many will say,

Hor. Ars Poet. ver. 104.

But if, unmov'd, you act not what you fay, I'll fleep, or laugh the lifeless theme away.

"If there be a deficiency in the Speaker, there will not be a fufficient attention and regard paid to the thing

" thing spoken: But, Mr. Bickerstaff, you know, that " as too little action is cold, fo too much is fulfom. " Some indeed may think themselves accomplished " Speakers, for no other reason than because they can " be loud and noify; for furely Stentor must have some defign in his vociferations. But, dear Mr. Bickerstaff, " convince them, that as harsh and irregular found is " not harmony; fo neither is banging a cushion, oratory: And therefore, in my humble opinion, a certain Di-" vine of the first order, whom I allow otherwise to be a " great man, would do well to leave this off; for I " think his fermons would be more persuasive, if he " gave his auditory less disturbance. Though I cannot " fay, that this action would be wholly improper to a " prophane oration; yet, I think, in a religious affem-" bly, it gives a man too warlike, or perhaps too these arrical a figure, to be suitable to a Christian congrees gation. I am,

Sir,

Your humble fervant, &c.

The most learned and ingenious Mr. Rosehat is also pleased to write to me on this subject.

SIR,

Read with great pleasure in the Tatler of Saturday
last the conversation upon Eloquence: Permit me
to hint to you one thing the great Roman Orator obferves upon this subject: Caput enim arbitrabatur Oratoris, (he quotes Menedemus an Athenian,) ut ipsis apud
quos ageret talis qualem ipse optaret videretur; id seri
vitæ dignitate. Tull. de Orat. It is the first rule in
oratory, that a man must appear such as he would
persuade others to be; and that can be accomplished
only by the force of his life. I believe it might be
of great service to let our public Orators know, that
an unnatural gravity, or an unbecoming levity in their
behaviour out of the pulpit, will take very much from
the force of their eloquence in it. Excuse another
fcrap

" fcrap of Latin; it is from one of the Fathers: I think it will appear a just observation to all, and it

" may have authority with some; Qui autem docent tan-

tùm, nec faciunt, ipsi præceptis suis detrahunt pondus: Quis enim obtemperet, cum ipsi præceptores doceant non

" obtemperare? Those who teach, but do not act agree-

" ably to the instructions they give to others, take away all weight from their doctrine: For who will obey the

" precepts they inculcate, if they themselves teach us

by their practice to disobey them? I am, Sir,

Your most humble fervant,

Jonathan Rosehat.

P. S. You were complaining in that Paper, that the Clergy of Great-Britain had not yet learned to speak: A very great defect indeed: and therefore I shall think myfelf a well-deferver of the church, in recommending all the dumb Clergy to the famous speaking Doctor at Kenfington. This ingenious Gentleman, out of compaffion to these of a bad utterance, has placed his whole fludy in the new modelling the organs of voice; which art he has fo far advanced, as to be able even to make a good orator of a pair of bellows. He lately exhibited a specimen of his skill in this way, of which I was informed by the worthy Gentlemen then present; who were at once delighted and amazed to hear an inftrument of fo simple an organization use an exact articulation of words, a just cadency in its sentences, and a wonderful Pathos in its pronunciation: not that he defigns to expatiate on this practice; because he cannot, as he fays, apprehend what use it may be of to mankind, whose benefit he aims at in a more particular manner: And for the same reason, he will never more instruct the feathered kind, the parrot having been his last scholar in that way. He has a wonderful faculty in making. and mending echoes; and this he will perform at any time for the use of the solitary in the country; being a man born for univerfal good, and for that reason recommended to your patronage by,

Sir, yours, &c.

Another learned Gentleman gives me also this enco-

SIR,

September 16.

You are now got into a useful and noble subject; take care to handle it with judgment and delicacy. I wish every young Divine would give yours of Saturday last a serious perusal: And now you are entered upon the Action of an Orator, if you would proceed to savour the world with some remarks on the mystical enchantments of Pronunciation, what a secret force there is in the accents of a tunable voice, and wherefore the works of two very great men of the profession could never please so well when read as heard, I shall trouble you with no more scribble. You are now in the method of being truly profitable and delightful. If you can keep up to such great and sublime subjects, and pursue them with a suitable genius, go on and prosper. Farewel."

White's Chocolate-house, September 19.

This was left for me here for the use of the company of the house.

To ISAAC BICKERSTAFF, Efquire.

SIR,

September 15.

HE account you gave lately of a certain dogkennel in or near Suffolk-street, was not so punctual as to the list of the Dogs, as might have been
expected from a person of Mr. Bickerstaff's intelligence; for if you will dispatch Pacolet thither some
evening, it is ten to one but he finds, besides those
you mentioned,
Toqueer, a large French mongrel, that was not long
ago in a tattered condition, but has now got new
hair; is not sleet, but, when he grapples, bites even

" to the marrow.
" Spring, a little French greyhound, that lately made

" a false trip to Tunbridge.

" Sly, an old battered fox-hound, that began the

er game in France.

"Lightfoot, a fine skinned Flanders dog, that belonged to a pack at Ghent; but having lost flesh, is gone to Paris for the benefit of the air.

"With feveral others, that in time may be worth

es notice.

"Your familiar will see also, how anxious the keepers are about the prey, and indeed not without very good reason, for they have their share of every thing; nay, not so much as a poor rabbet can be run down, but these carnivorous curs swallow a quarter of it. Some mechanics in the neighbourhood, that have entered into this civil society, and who surnish part of the carrion and oatmeal for the dogs, have the skin; and the bones are picked clean by a little French shock that belongs to the samily, &c. I am,

Sir,

Your humble fervant, &c.

" I had almost forgot to tell you, that Ringwood bites at Hampstead with false teeth."

Nº 71. Thursday, September 22, 1709.

From my own Apartment, September 21.

Have long been, against my inclination, employed in satire, and that in prosecution of such persons who are below the dignity of the true spirit of it; such who, I fear, are not to be reclaimed by making them only ridiculous. The sharpers shall therefore have a month's time to themselves free from the observation of this Paper; but I must not make a truce without letting them know, that at the same time I am preparing for a more

more vigorous war: For a friend of mine has promifed me, he will employ his time in compiling fuch a tract before the fession of the ensuing parliament, as shall lay gaming home to the bosoms of all who love their country or their families; and he doubts not but it will create an Act, that shall make these rogues as scandalous, as

those less mischievous ones on the high road.

I have received private intimations to take care of my walks, and remember there are fuch things as stabs and blows: But as there never was any thing in this defign which ought to displease a man of honour, or which was not defigned to offend the rafcals, I shall give myself very little concern for finding what I expected, that they would be highly provoked at these Lucubrations. But though I utterly despise the pack, I must confess I am at a fland at the receipt of the following letter, which feems to be written by a man of fense and worth, who has mistaken some passage that I am sure was not levelled at him. This Gentleman's complaints give me compunction, when I neglect the threats of the rafcals. cannot be in jest with the rogues any longer, fince they pretend to threaten. I do not know whether I shall allow them the favour of transportation.

Mr. BICKERSTAFF,

Sept. 13.

Biferving you are not content with lashing the I many vices of the age without illustrating each " with particular characters, it is thought nothing would " more contribute to the impression you design by such, "than always having regard to truth. In your Tatler, " of this day, I observe you allow, that nothing is so " tender as a Lady's reputation; that a stain once got " in their fame, is hardly ever to be washed out. This " you grant, even when you give yourfelf leave to trifle. "If so what caution is necessary in handling the repu-" tation of a man, whose well-being in this life perhaps " entirely depends on preserving it from any wound, which, once there received, too often becomes fatal and incurable? Suppose some villainous hand, through " personal prejudice, transmits materials for this purbe pose, which you publish to the world, and afterwards " become "become fully convinced you were imposed on; as by this time you may be of a character you have fent into the world; I fay, supposing this, I would be glad to know, what reparation you think ought to be made

"the person so injured, admitting you stood in his place.

"It has always been held, that a generous education is the furest mark of a generous mind. The former is

" indeed perspicuous in all your Papers; and I am perfuaded, though you affect often to shew the latter, yet
you would not keep any measures, even of Christianity,

" with those who should handle you in the manner you do others. The application of all this is from your

" having very lately glanced at a man, under a character, which were he conscious to deserve, he would be

" the first to rid the world of himself; and would be more justifiable in it to all forts of men, than you in

" your committing fuch a violence on his reputation, which perhaps you may be convinced of in another

" manner than you deferve from him.

"A man of your capacity, Mr. Bickerstaff, should have more noble views, and pursue the true spirit of fatire; but I will conclude, lest I grow out of temper,

" and will only beg you, for your own prefervation, to

" remember the proverb of the pitcher.

I am yours,

1. %

The proverb of the pitcher I have no regard to; but it would be an infensibility not to be pardoned, if a man could be untouched at so warm an accusation, and that laid with so much seeming temper. All I can say to it is, that if the Writer, by the same method whereby he conveyed this Letter, should give me an instance wherein I have injured any good man, or pointed at any thing which is not the true object of raillery, I shall acknowledge the offence in as open a manner as the press can do it, and lay down this Paper for ever.

There is something very terrible in unjustly attacking men in a way that may prejudice their honour or fortune; but when men of too modest a sense of themselves will

think

think they are touched, it is impossible to prevent illconsequences from the most innocent and general difcourses. This I have known happen in circumstances the most foreign to theirs, who have taken offence at An advertisement lately published, relating to Omicron, alarmed a Gentleman of good sense, integrity, honour, and industry, who is, in every particular, different from the trifling pretenders pointed at in that ad-When the modesty of some is as excessive. vertisement. as the vanity of others, what defence is there against mifinterpretation? However, giving disturbance, though not intended, to men of virtuous characters, has fo fincerely troubled me, that I will break from this fatirical vein; and to shew I very little value myself upon it, shall from this month ensuing leave the Sharper, the Fop, the Pedant, the Proud Man, the Infolent; in a word, all the train of Knaves and Fools, to their own devices, and touch on nothing but panegyric. This way is fuitable to the true genius of the Stuffs, who are much more inclined to reward than punish. If therefore the Author of the above-mentioned Letter does not command my filence wholly, as he shall if I do not give him fatiffaction, I shall for the above-mentioned space turn my thoughts to raising merit from its obscurity, celebrating virtue in its diffress, and attacking vice by no other method, but fetting innocence in a proper light.

Will's Coffee-house, September 5.

I find here for me the following Letter.

Esquire BICKERSTAFF,

"Inding your advice and censure to have a good effect, I desire your admonition to our vicar and schoolmaster, who, in his preaching to his auditors, stretches his jaws so wide, that instead of instructing youth, it rather frightens them: Likewise in reading prayers, he has such a careless loll, that people are justly offended at his irreverent posture; besides the extraordinary charge they are put to in sending their children to dance, to bring them off of those ill gestions. It

tures. Another evil faculty he has, in making the bowling-green his daily refidence, instead of his church, where his curate reads prayers every day. If the weather is fair, his time is spent in visiting; if cold or wet, in bed, or at least at home, though within a hundred yards of the church. These, out of many such irregular practices, I write for his reclamation: But, two or three things more before I conclude; to wit, that generally when his curate preaches in the afternoon, he sleeps sitting in the desk on a hasfock. With all this he is so extremely proud, that he will go but once to the sick, except they return his visit."

I was going on in reading my Letter, when I was interrupted by Mr. Greenhat, who has been this evening at the Play of Hamlet. Mr. Bickerflaff, said he, had von been to-night at the playhouse, you had seen the force of action in perfection: Your admired Mr. Betterton behaved himself so well, that, though now about seventy. he acted youth; and by the prevalent power of proper manner, gesture, and voice, appeared through the whole Drama a young man of great expectation, vivacity, and enterprize. The foliloguy, where he began the celebrated fentence of, "To be, or not to be!" the expostulation where he explains with his mother in her closet; the noble ardour, after seeing his father's ghos; and his generous diffress for the death of Ophelia, at each of them circumstances which dwell strongly upon the minds of the audience, and would certainly affect their behaviour on any parallel occasions in their one lives. Pray, Mr. Bickerstaff, let us have virtue thus te presented on the stage with its proper ornaments, or these ornaments be added to her in places more facred. As for my part, said he, I carried my Cousin Jerry, this little boy, with me; and shall always love the child for his partiality in all that concerned the fortune of Hamilt. This is entering youth into the affections and passions of manhood before-hand, and, as it were, antedating the effects we hope from a long and liberal education.

I cannot, in the midst of many other things which press, hide the comfort that this Letter from my ingenious kinsman gives me.

To my honoured kinsman, Isaac Bickerstaff, Esquire.

Dear Cousin,

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Oxford, Sept. 18.

" I AM forry, though not surprised, to find that you have rallied the men of dress in vain; that the " amber-headed cane still maintains its unstable post; " that pockets are but few inches shortened; and a beau " is still a beau, from the crown of his night-cap to the " heels of his shoes. For your comfort, I can affure you. " that your endeavours succeed better in this famous seat " of learning. By them, the manners of our young "Gentlemen are in a fair way of amendment, and their " very language is mightily refined. To them it is " owing, that not a Servitor will fing a catch, nor a " Senior Fellow make a pun, nor a determining Bache-" lor drink a bumper; and I believe a Gentleman-" Commoner would as foon have the heels of his shoes " red, as his stockings. When a witling stands at a " Coffee house door, and sneers at those who pass by, " to the great improvement of his hopeful audience, he " is no longer furnamed a Slicer, but a Man of Fire is " the word. A Beauty, whose health is drank from " Heddington to Hinkfey; who has been the theme of the " Muses, her cheeks painted with roses, and her bosom " planted with orange-boughs; has no more the title " of Lady, but reigns an undisputed Toast. When to " the plain garb of gown and band a spark adds an in-" contillent long wig, we do not fay now he Boshes, but " there goes a Smart Fellow. If a virgin blushes, we " no longer cry, the Blues. He that drinks until he " ftares is no more Tow-Row, but Honeit. A Youngster " in a Scrape is a word out of date; and what bright " man fays, I was Joabed by the Dean? Bambouzling " is exploded; a Shat is a Tatler; and if the mulcular " motion of a man's face be violent, no mortal fays, he " raifes a horse, but he is a Merry Fellow.

Nº 72.

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"I congratulate you, my dear kinsman, upon these conquests; such as Roman Emperors lamented they

" could not gain; and in which you rival your corre. foondent Louis le Grand, and his dictating Academy,

"Be yours the glory to perform, mine to record, as Mr. Dryden has faid before me to his kinfman; and

" while you enter triumphant into the temple of the Muses, I, as my office requires, will, with my staff on

" my shoulder, attend and conduct you. I am,

Dear coufin,

your most affectionate kinsman,

Benjamin Beadlestaff.

"Upon the humble application of certain persons who have made heroic figures in Mr. Bickerstaff's narrations, notice is hereby given, That no such shall

" ever be mentioned for the future, except those who

" have fent menaces, and not submitted to admonition."

Nº 72. Saturday, September 24, 1709.

White's Chocolate-house, September 23.

Have taken upon me no very easy task in turning all my thoughts on panegyric, when most of the advices I receive tend to the quite contrary purpose; and I have sew notices but such as regard sollies and vices. But the properest way for me to treat is, to keep in general upon the passions and affections of men, with as little regard to particulars, as the nature of the thing will admit. However, I think there is something so passionate in the circumstances of the lovers mentioned in the sollowing Letter, that I am willing to go out of my way to obey what is commanded in it.

SIR,

SIR,

London, Sept. 17.

Your design of entertaining the town with the characters of the ancient Heroes, as persons so shall send an account to Mr. Morphew's, encourages me and others to beg of you, that in the mean time, if it is not contrary to the method you have proposed, you would give us one Paper upon the subject of the death of Pætus and his wife, when Nero sent him an order to kill himself: His wife, setting him the example, died with these words, Pætus, it is not pain sul. You must know the story, and your observations upon it will oblige,

Sir,

Your most humble fervant.

When the worst man that ever lived in the world had the highest station in it, human life was the object of his diversion; and he fent orders frequently, out of mere wantonness, to take off such and such, without so much as being angry with them. Nay, frequently his tyranny was so humorous, that he put men to death, because he could not but approve of them. It came one day to his ear, that a certain married couple, Pætus and Arria, lived in a more happy tranquillity and mutual love than any other persons who were then in being. He listened with great attention to the account of their manner of spending their time together, of the constant pleasure they were to each other in all their words and actions; and found by exact information, that they were fo treafonable, as to be much more happy than his Imperial Majesty himself. Upon which he writ Pærus the following billet :

Nero.

[&]quot;Petus, you are hereby defired to dispatch yourself.
"I have heard a very good character of you; and therefore leave it to yourself, whether you will die by dagger, sword, or poison. If you outlive this order above
an hour, I have given directions to put you to death
by torture.

This familiar epistle was delivered to his wife Arria,

who opened it.

One must have a Soul very well turned for love, pity, and indignation, to comprehend the tumult this unhappy Lady was thrown into upon this occasion. The pattion of love is no more to be understood by fome temvers, than a problem in a science by an ignorant man: But he that knows what affection is, will have, upon confidering the condition of Arria, ten thousand thoughts flowing upon him, which the tongue was not formed to express; but the charming statue is now before my eyes, and Arria, in her unutterable forrow, has more beauty than ever appeared in youth, in mirth, or in triumph. These are the great and noble incidents which freak the dignity of our Nature, in our fufferings and diffresses, Behold her tender affection for her husband finks her features into a countenance, which appears more helpless than that of an infant: But again, her indignation thews in her visage and her bosom a resentment, as frong as that of the bravest man. Long she stood in this agony of alternate rage and love; but at last composed herself for her disfolution, rather than survive her beloved Patus. When he came into her presence, he found her with the tyrant's letter in one hand, and a dagger in the Upon his approach to her, she gave him the order: and at the same time stabbing herself, " Patu; " faid she, it is not painful," and expired. Pætus immediately followed her example. The passion of these memorable lovers was fuch, that it illuded the rigour of their fortune, and baffled the force of a blow, which neither felt, because each received it for the fake of the other. The woman's part in this story is by much the more heroic, and has occasioned one of the best epigrams transmitted to us from antiquity.

When Arria pull'd the dagger from her fide, Thus to her confort spoke th' illustrious bride; The wound I gave myself I do not grieve, I die by that which Patus must receive. From my own Apartment, September 13.

The boy fays, one in a black hat left the following Letter.

Friend, 19th of the feventh month.

" B EING of that part of Christians whom men " way, I was perfuaded yesterday to hear one of your " most noted teachers; the matter he treated, was ne-" cessity of well living grounded upon a future state. I " was attentive; but the man did not appear in earnest. "He read his discourse, notwithstanding thy rebukes, " so heavily, and with so little air of being convinced " himself, that I thought he would have slept, as I ob-" ferved many of his hearers did. I came home un-" edified, and troubled in mind. I dipt into the Lamen-" tations, and from thence turning to the 34th chapter " of Ezekiel, I found these words; Wo be to the shep-" herds of Ifrael, that do feed themselves! should not " the shepherds feed the flock? Ye eat the fat, and ye " clothe you with the wool: ye kill them that are fed; " but ye feed not the flock. The difeated have te not " firengthened; neither have ye healed that which was " fick; neither have ye bound up that which was bro-" ken; neither have ye brought again that which was " driven away; neither have ye fought that which was " loft; but with force and with cruelty have ye ruled " them, &c. Now, I pray thee, friend, as thou art a " man skilled in many things, tell me, who is meant " by the Diseased, the Sick, the Broken, the Driven " away, and the Loft? and whether the prophecy in " this chapter be accomplished, or yet to come to pals? " and thou wilt oblige thy friend, though unknown."

This matter is too facred for this Paper; but I cannot fee what injury it would do to any Clergyman to have it in his eye, and believe all that are taken from him by his want of industry, are to be demanded of him. I dare fay, Favonius has very few of these losses. Favonius, in the midst of a thousand impertinent assaulants of G. 4.

the Divine Truths, is an undisturbed desender of them. He protects all under his care, by the clearness of his understanding, and the example of his life: He visits dying men with the air of a man who hoped for his own dissolution, and enforces in others a contempt of this life, by his own expectation of the next. His voice and behaviour are the lively images of a composed and well-coverned zeal. None can leave him for the frivolous jargon uttered by the ordinary teachers among the distenters, but such who cannot distinguish vociferation from eloquence, and argument from railing. He is so great a judge of mankind, and touches our passions with so superior a command, that he who deserts his congregation must be a stranger to the distates of Nature, as well as those of Grace.

But I must proceed to other matters, and resolve the questions of other enquirers; as in the following:

SIR,

Heddington, Sept. 19.

" TPON reading that part of the Tatler, Number () (9, where mention is made of a certain chapel-" clerk, there arose a dispute, and that produced a wawhether by the words chapel clerk, was meant a " Chergyman or Layman? by a Clergyman, I mean one in holy orders. It was not, that any body in the " company pretended to guess who the person was; but o fome afferred, that by Mr. Bielerfleff's words must be " meant a Clergyman only: Others faid, that those " wo de might have been faid of any clerk of a parish; " and some of them more properly of a Layman. · wager is half a dozen bottles of wine; in which, if · you please to determine it, your health, and all the · family of the Staffs, shall certainly be drank; and " you will fingularly oblige another very confiderable " family; I n.ean that of

Your humble servants,

The Trancher Caps.

It is very customary with us learned men, to find perplexities where no one else can fee any. The honest Gentlemen, Gentlemen, who writ me this, are much at a loss to understand what I thought very plain; and in return, their epistle is so plain, that I cannot understand it. This. perhaps, is at first a little like nonsense; but I defire all persons to examine these writings with an eye to my being far gone in the Occult Sciences; and remember, that it is the privilege of the learned and the great to be understood when they please: For as a man of much bufiness may be allowed to leave company when he pleases; so one of high learning may be above your capacity when he thinks fit. But without further speeches or fooling, I must inform my friends the Trencher Caps in plain words, that I meant in the place they speak of, a drunken Clerk of a church: And I will return their civility among my relations, and drink their healths as they do ours.

Nº 73. Tuesday, September 27, 1709.

White's Chocolate-house, September 26.

I Cannot express the confusion the following. Letter gave me, which I received by Sir Thomas this morning. There cannot be a greater surprize, than to meet with sudden enmity in the midst of a familiar and friendly correspondence; which is my case in relation to this epistle: And I have no way to purge myself to the world, but by publishing both it and my answer.

Mr. BICKERSTAFF,

"YOU are a very impudent fellow to put me into the Tatler. Rot you, Sir, I have more wit than "you; and rot me, I have more money than most sools "I have bubbled. All persons of Quality admire me; "though, rot me, if I value a blue garter any more than

"I do a blue apron. Every body knows I am brave;

" therefore have a care how you provoke

Menoculus.

The

The Answer.

SIR,

ID I not very well know your hand, as well by the spelling as the character, I should not have believed yours of to-day had come from you. But " when all men are acquainted, that I have had all my " intelligence from you relating to your fraternity, let " them pronounce who is the more impudent. I con-" fess, I have had a peculiar tenderness for you, by rea-" fon of that luxuriant eloquence of which you are " mafter, and have treated you accordingly; for which " you have turned your florid violence against your an-" cient friend and school-fellow. You know in your " own conscience, you gave me leave to touch upon " your vein of speaking, provided I hid your other ta-" lents; in which I believed you fincere, because, like " the ancient Sinon, you have before now suffered your-" felf to be defaced to carry on a plot. Besides, Sir, " rot me, language for a person of your present station! " Fy, fv, I am really ashamed for you, and shall no " more depend upon your intelligence. Keep your tem-" per, wash your face, and go to bed.

Ifaac Bickerstaff.

For ought I know, this fellow may have confused the description of the pack, on purpose to enfoare the game, while I have all along believed he was destroying them as well as myself; but because they pretend to bark more than ordinary. I shall let them see that I will not throw away the whip, until they know better how to behave themselves. But I must not, at the same time, omit the praises of their Occonomy expressed in the following advice.

Mr. BICKERSTAFF, Sept. 17.

HOUGH your thoughts are at present employed upon the Tables of Fame, and marfhalling your illustrious Dead, it is hoped the living may not be neglected, not defrauded of their just homes;

nours; and fince you have begun to publish to the " world the great fagacity and vigilance of the Knights of the Industry, it will be expected you shall proceed " to do justice to all the societies of them you can be a informed of; especially since their own great industry covers their actions as much as possible from that pub-" lic notice which is their due.

Paulum sepultæ distat inertiæ Celata Virtus. Hor. Od. g. 1. 4. v. 29. " Hidden vice, and concealed virtue, are much alike.

"Be pleased therefore to let the following memoirs " have a place in their history.

" In a certain part of the town, famous for the freshest " oysters and the plainest English, there is a house, or " rather a college, facred to hospitality, and the induf-

" trious arts. At the entrance is hieroglyphically drawn

" a cavalier contending with a monster, with jaws ex-

" panded, just ready to devour him.

" Hitherto the brethren of the Industry resort; but to " avoid offentation, they wear no habits of diffinction, " and perform their exercises with as little noise and se shew as possible. Here are no under-graduates, but " each is mafter of his art. They are diffributed ac-" cording to their various talents, and detached abroad " in parties, to divide the labours of the day. They " have dogs as well noted and as fleet as any, and no " fportsmen shew greater activity. Some beat for the " game, fome hunt it, others come in at the death; " and my honest landlord makes very good venifor fauce, " and eats his share of the dinner.

" I would fain purfue my metaphors; but a venerable " person who thands by me, and waits to bring you this "Letter, and whom, by a certain benevolence in his " look, I fuspect to be Pacalet, reproves me, and obliges " me to write in plainer terms, that the fociety had fixed " their eyes on a gay young Gentleman who has lately " succeeded to a title and an efface; the latter of which " they judged would be very convenient for them. "Therefore, after several attempts to get into his ac-" quaintance, my landlord finds an opportunity to make

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" his court to a friend of the young spark, in the fol-

" lowing manner:

"Sir, as I take you to be a lover of ingenuity and plain dealing, I shall speak very freely to you. In few words then, you are acquainted with Sir Liberal Brisk. Providence has for our emolument sent him a fair estate; for men are not born for themselves.

- "Therefore if you will bring him to my house, we will take care of him, and you shall have half the profits.
- There is Ace and Cutter will do his business to a hair.
 You will tell me, perhaps, he is your friend; I grant
- "it, and it is for that I propose it, to prevent his fall-

" ing into ill hands.

- " We'll carve him like a dish fit for the Gods,
- " Not hew him like a carcase fit for hounds.

" In short, there are to my certain knowledge a hun-

dred mouths open for him. Now if we can fecure him to ourselves, we shall disappoint all those rascals

" that do not deferve him. Nay, you need not flart at

"it. Sir, it is for your own advantage. Besides,

" Partridge has cast me his nativity, and I find by cer-

" tain deltiny, his oaks must be felled.

"The Gentleman, to whom this honest proposal was made, made little answer; but said he would consider

of it, and immediately took coach to find out the

young Baronet, and told him all that had paffed, to-

gether with a new falvo to fatisfy a man's conscience in facrificing his friend. Sir Brijk was fired, swore a

dozen oaths, drew his fword, put it up again, called

for his man, beat him, and bid him fetch a coach.

" His friend asked him, what he designed, and whither

he was going? He answered, to find out the villains,

and fight them. To which his friend agreed, and

promifed to be his fecond, on condition he would first

divide his effect to them, and referve only a propor-

tion to himself, that so he might have the justice of fighting his equals. His next resolution was to play

with them, and let them fee he was not the bubble

they took him for. But he foon quitted that, and re-

of solved at last to tell Bickerstaff of them, and get them.

Nº 73. er enrolled in the order of the Industry; with this cau-" tion to all young landed Knights and Efquires, that " whenever they are drawn to play, they would confider " it as calling them down to a fentence already pro-" nounced upon them, and think of the found of theie words, his oaks must be felled. I am,



Sir.

Your faithful, humble servant.

Will. Trufty.

From my own Apartment, September 26.

It is wonderful to confider what a pitch of confidence this world is arrived at. Do people believe I am made up of patience? I have long told them, that I will fuffer no enormity to pass, without I have an understanding with the offenders by way of hush-money; and yet the candidates at Queen-Hithe fend coals to all the town but me. All the public papers have had this advertisement.

London, September 22, 1709.

To the electors of an Alderman for the ward of Queen-Hithe.

Hereas an evil and pernicious custom has of late very much prevailed at the election of " Aldermen for this city, by treating at taverns and " alehouses, thereby engaging many unwarily to give " their votes : Which practice appearing to Sir Arthur " de Bradly to be of dangerous consequence to the free-" dom of elections, he hath avoided the excess thereof. " Nevertheless, to make an acknowledgment to this " ward for their intended favour, he hath deposited in " the hands of Mr. ----, one of the present com-" mon-council, four hundred and fifty pounds, to be " disposed of as follows, provided the said Sir Arthur " de Bradly be the Alderman, viz. " All fuch that shall poll for Sir Arthur de Bradly shall have one chaldron of good coals gratis.

" And half a chaldron to every one that shall not

or poll against him.

And the remainder to be laid out in a clock, dial, or otherwise, as the common-council-men of the said ward shall think sit.

- "And if any person shall refuse to take the said coals to himself, he may assign the same to any poor electors in the ward.
 - "I do acknowledge to have received the faid four hundred and fifty pounds, for the purposes above-mentioned, for which I have given a receipt.

Witness,
$$\mathcal{I}$$
—s H —t,
 \mathcal{I} —y G —b,
 E —d D —s.

"N. B. Whereas several persons have already engaged to poll for Sir Humphry Greenhat, it is hereby farther declared, that every such person as doth poll for Sir Humphry Greenhat, and doth also poll for Sir Arthur de Bradly, shall each of them receive a chaldron of coals gratis, on the provisio above-mentioned."

This is certainly the most plain dealing that ever was used, except that the just quantity which an elector may drink without excess, and the difference between an acknowledgment and a bribe, wants explanation. Another difficulty with me is, how a man who is bargained with for a chaldron of coals for his vote, shall be faid to have that chaldron gratis? If my kinfman Greenkat had given me the least intimation of his defign, I should have prevented his publishing nonsense; nor should any knight in England have put my relation at the bottom of the leaf as a pottfeript, when over all it appears Greenbat has been the more popular man. There is here such open contradiction, and clumfy art to palliate the matter, and prove to the people, that the freedom of election is fater when laid out in coals than firong drink, that I can turn this only to a religious use, and admire the dispendispensation of things; for if these sellows were as wise as they are rich, where would be our liberty? This reminds me of a memorable speech made to a city almost in the same Latitude with Westminster: "When I think of your wisdom, I admire your wealth; when I think of your wealth, I admire your wisdom."

Nº 74. Thursday, September 29, 1709.

White's Chocolate-house, September 28.

HE writer of the following Letter has made an use of me, which I did not foresee I should fall into. But the Gentleman having assured me that he has a most tender passion for the fair one, an speaking his intention with so much sincerity, I am willing to let them contrive an interview by my means.

SIR.

"Earnestly intreat you to publish the inclosed; for I have no other way to come at her, or return to myself.

A. L.

P. S. Mr. BIKERSTAFF,

"You cannot imagine how handsome she is: The superscription of my letter will make her recelled the man that gazed at her. Pray product in."

I can affure the young Lady, the Gentleman is in the true trammels of love: How else would be make his superscription so very much longer than his billet? he superscribes;

"To the younger of the two ladies in mourning (who fat in the hindmost feat of the middle box at "Mr.

- " Mr. Winstanley's water-works on Tuesday was fort-
- " night, and had with them a brother, or some ac-
- "quaintance that was as careless of that pretty creature as a brother; which seeming brother ushered
- "them to their coach) with great respect. Present."

MADAM,

I Have a very good estate, and wish myself your husband: Let me know by this way where you live; for I shall be miserable until we live together.

Alexander Landlord.

This is the modern way of bargain and fale; a certain short-hand writing, in which Laconic elder brothers are very successful. All my fear is, that the nymph's elder sister is unmarried; if she is, we are undone: but perhaps the careless fellow was her husband, and then she will let us go on.

From my own Apartment, September 28.

The following Letter has given me a new sense of the nature of my Writings. I have the deepest regard to conviction, and shall never act against it. However, I do not yet understand what good man he thinks I have injured: But his epistle has such weight in it, that I shall always have respect for his admonition, and desire the continuance of it. I am not conscious that I have spoke any faults a man may not mend if he pleases.

Mr. BICKERSTAFF,

Sept. 25.

"WHEN I read your paper of Thursday, I was furprized to find mine of the thirteenth inserted at large; I never intended myself or you a second trouble of this kind, believing I had sufficiently pointed out the man you had injured, and that by this time you were convinced that silence would be the best answer: But finding your restection are such as naturally call for a reply, I take this way of doing it; and, in the first place, return you thanks for the compliment.

pliment made me of my seeming sense and worth. It do assure you, I shall always endeavour to convince mankind of the latter, though I have no pretence to the former. But to come a little nearer, I observe you put yourself under a very severe restriction, even the laying down the Tatler for ever, if I can give you an instance, where you have injured any good man, or pointed at any thing which is not the true object

of raillery.

"I must confess, Mr. Bickerstaff, if the making a man " guilty of vices that would shame the gallows, be the " best method to point at the true object of raillery, I " have until this time been very ignorant; but if it be " fo, I will venture to affert one thing, and lay it down " as a maxim, even to the Staffian race, viz. That that " method of pointing ought no more to be purfued, than " those people ought to cut your throat who suffer by " it; because I take both to be murder, and the law is " not in every private man's hands to execute: But in-" deed, Sir, were you the only person would suffer by " the Tatler's discontinuance, I have malice enough to " punish you in the manner you prescribe; but I am not so great an enemy to the town or my own pleasures, " as to wish it; nor that you would lay afide lashing the " reigning vices, fo long as you keep to the true spirit " of fatire, without descending to rake into characters " below its dignity; for as you well observe, there is " fomething very terrible in unjustly attacking men in " a way that may prejudice their honour or fortune; " and indeed, where crimes are enormous, the delin-" quent deserves little pity, yet the reporter may de-" ferve less: And here I am naturally led to that cele-" brated author of The achole Duty of Man, who hath " fet this matter in a true light in his treatife of the " government of the tongue; where, speaking of un-" charitable truths, he fays, a discovery of this kind " ferves not to reclaim, but enrage the offender, and " precipitate him into farther degrees of ill. Modesty " and fear of shame is one of those natural restraints, " which the wisdom of heaven has put upon mankind; and he that once flumbles, may yet by a check of "that bridle recover again: But when by a public de" tection he is fallen under that infamy he feared, he " will then be apt to discard all caution, and to think " he owes himself the utmost pleasures of vice, as the " price of his reputation. Nay, perhaps he advances " farther, and fets up for a reversed fort of fame, by " being eminently wicked, and he who before was but " a clandestine disciple, becomes a doctor of Impiett, " &c. This fort of reasoning, Sir, most certainly in-" duced our wife legislators very lately to repeal that " law, which put the stamp of infamy in the face of fe-" lons; therefore you had better give an act of oblivion " to your delinquents, at least for transportation, than " continue to mark them in fo notorious a manner. I " cannot but applaud your defigned attempt of raifing " merit from obscurity, celebrating virtue in distress, " and attacking vice in another method, by fetting in-" nocence in a proper light. Your pursuing these noble " themes will make a greater advance to the reformation " you feem to aim at, than the method you have hitherto " taken, by putting mankind beyond the power of re-" trieving themselves, or indeed to think it possible. " But if, after all your endeavours in this new way, " there should then remain any hardened impenitents, " you must even give them up to the rigour of the law, " as delinquents not within the benefit of their clergy. " Pardon me, good Mr. Bickerstaff, for the tediousness " of this epittle, and believe it is not from any felf-" conviction I have taken up so much of your time, or " my own; but supposing you mean all your Lucubra-" tions should tend to the good of mankind, I may the 4' casier hope your pardon, being, Sir, yours, &c.

Grecian Coffice-house, September 29.

This evening I thought fit to notify to the Literati of this house, and by that means to all the world, that on Saturday the fifteenth of October next ensuing, I defign to fix my first table of Fame; and defire that such as are acquainted with the characters of the twelve most famous men that have ever appeared in the world, would fend in their lists, or name any one man for that table, assigning

affigning also his place at it before that time, upon pain of having such his man of Fame postponed, or placed too high for ever. I shall not, upon any application whatever, alter the place which upon that day I shall give to any of these Worthies. But whereas there are many who take upon them to admire this Hero, or that Author, upon second hand, I expect each subscriber should underwrite his reason for the place he allots his candidate.

The thing is of the last confequence; for we are about fettling the greatest point that ever has been debated in any age; and I shall take precautions accordingly. Let every man, who votes, confider, that he is now going to give away that, for which the foldier gave up his reft, his pleasure, and his life; the scholar resigned his whole feries of thought, his midnight repose, and his morning flumbers. In a word, he is, as I may fay, to be judge of that after life, which noble spirits prefer to their very real Beings. I hope I shall be forgiven therefore, if I make some objections against their jury, as they shall The whole of the number by whom they occur to me. are to be tried, are to be scholars. I am persuaded also, that Aristotle will be put up by all of that class of men. However, in behalf of others, such as wear the livery of Aristoile, the two famous Universities are called upon on this occasion; but I except the men of Queen's, Exeter, and Jesus Colleges, in Oxford, who are not to be electors, because he shall not be crowned from an implicit faith in his writings, but receive his honour from such Judges as shall allow him to be censured. Upon this election, as I was just now going to say, I banish all who think and speak after others to concern the filves in it. For which reason all-illiterate distant admirers are forbidden to corrrupt the voices, by fending, according to the new mode, any poor students coals and candles for their votes in behalf of such Worthies, as they pretend to feem. All News Writers are also excluded, because they confider Fame as it is a report which gives foundation to the filling up their rhapsodies, and not as it is the emanation or confequence of good and evil actions. These are excepted against as justly as butchers in case of life and death; Their familiarity with the greatest names takes takes off the delicacy of their regard, as dealing in blood makes the Lanii less tender of spilling it.

St. James's Coffee-house, September 28.

Letters from Liston of the twenty-fifth instant, N. S. fpeak of a battle which has been fought near the river Cinca, in which General Staremberg had overthrown the army of the Duke of Anjeu. The persons who send this, excuse their not giving particulars, because they believed an account must have arrived here before we could hear from them. They had advices from different parts, which concurred in the circumstances of the action; after which the army of his Catholic Majesty advanced as far as Fraga, and the enemy retired to Saragoffa. There are reports, that the Duke of Anjou was in the engagement; but letters of good authority fay, that Prince was on the road towards the camp when he received the news of the defeat of his troops. We promife ourselves great consequences from such an advantage obtained by so accomplished a General as Staremberg; who, among the men of this present age, is esteemed the third in military fame and reputation.

Nº 75. Saturday, October 1, 1709.

From my own Apartment, September 30.

A M called off from public differtations by a domestic affair of great importance, which is no lefs than the disposal of my fister Jenny for life. The girl is a girl of great merit, and pleasing conversation; but I being born of my father's first wife, and she of his third, she converses with me rather like a daughter than a sister. I have indeed told her, that if she kept her honour, and behaved herself in such a manner as became the Bickerstaffs, I would get her an agreeable man for her husband; which

which was a promise I made her after reading a passage in Pliny's Epistles. That polite Author had been employed to find out a confort for his friend's daughter, and gives the following character of the man he had pitched upon.

Aciliano plurimum vigoris & industriæ quanquam in maxima verecundia: Est illi facies liberalis, multo sanguine, multo rubore, sussuusa: Est ingenua totius corporis pulchritudo, & quidam senatorius decor, quæ ego nequaquam arbitror negligenda: Debet enim hoc castitati puellarum quasi præmium dari.

"Acilianus (for that was the Gentleman's name) is a man of extraordinary vigour and industry, accompanied with the greatest modesty: He has very much

" of the Gentleman, with a lively colour, and flush of health in his aspect. His whole person is finely

"turned, and speaks him a man of Quality: Which are qualifications that, I think, ought by no means

" to be over-looked; and should be bestowed on a

" daughter as the reward of her chaffity."

A woman that will give herself liberties, need not put her parents to so much trouble; for if she does not possess these ornaments in a husband, she can supply herself elsewhere. But this is not the case of my sister fenny, who, I may say without vanity, is as unspotted a spiniter as any in Great-Britain. I shall take this occasion to recommend the conduct of our own family in

this particular.

We have in the genealogy of our house, the descriptions and pictures of our ancestors from the time of King Aribur; in whose days there was one of my own name, a Knight of his Round Table, and known by the name of Sir Isaac Bickerstaff. He was low of stature, and of a very swarthy complexion, not unlike a Portugueze Jew. But he was more prudent than men of that height usually arc, and would often communicate to his friends his design of lengthening and whitening his posterity. His eldest son Ralph, for that was his name, was for this reason married to a Lady who had little else to recommend her, but that she was very tall and very fair. The issue of this match, with the help of high shoes,

made a tolerable figure in the next age; though the complexion of the family was obscure until the fourth generation from that marriage. From which time, until the reign of William the Conqueror, the semales of our house were samous for their needlework and fine skins. In the male line, there happened an unlucky accident in the reign of Richard the Third; the eldest son of Philip, then chief of the samily, being born with an hump-back and very high nose. This was the more astonishing, because none of his foresathers ever had such a blemish; nor indeed was there any in the neighbourhood of that make, except the butler, who was noted for round shoulders, and a Roman nose: What made the nose the less excusable, was the remarkable smallness of his eyes.

These several defects were mended by succeeding matches; the eyes were opened in the next generation, and the hump sell in a century and half: but the greatest difficulty was, how to reduce the nose; which I do not find was accomplished until about the middle of Henry the Seventh's reign, or rather the beginning of that of

Henry the Eighth.

But while our ancestors were thus taken up in cultivating the eyes and note, the face of the Bickerstaffs fell down infensibly into chin; which was not taken notice of, their thoughts being so much employed upon the more noble features, until it became almost too long to be remedied.

But length of time, and successive care in our alliances, have cured this also, and reduced our faces into that to-lerable oval, which we enjoy at present. I would not be tedious in this discourse, but cannot but observe, that our race suffered very much about three hundred years ago, by the marriage of one of our heiresses with an eminent Courtier, who gave us spindlesshanks, and cramps in our bones; insomuch that we did not recover our health and legs until Sir Walter Bickerstass married Maud the milk-maid, of whom the then Garter King at Arms, a facetious person, said pleasantly enough, that she had spoiled our blood, but mended our constitutions.

After this account of the effect our prudent choice of matches has had upon our persons and seatures, I can-

changes made by marriage upon men's minds and humours. One might wear any passion out of a family by culture, as skilful gardeners blot a colour out of a tulip that hurts its beauty. One might produce an assable temper out of a shrew, by grafting the mild upon the choleric; or raise a jack-pudding from a prude, by inoculating mirth and melancholy. It is for want of care in the disposing of our children, with regard to our bodies and minds, that we go into an house and see such different complexions and humours in the same race and samily: But to me it is as plain as a pike-staff, from what mixture it is, that this daughter silently lours, the other steals a kind look at you, a third is exactly well behaved, a fourth a Splenetic, and a fifth a Coquette.

In this disposal of my fifter, I have chosen with an eye to her being a wit, and provided, that the bridegroom be a man of a found and excellent judgment, who will feldom mind what she says when she begins to harangue: For Jenny's only imperfection is an admiration of her parts, which inclines her to be a little, but a very little, fluttish; and you are ever to remark, that we are apt to cultivate most, and bring into observation, what we think most excellent in ourselves, or most capable of improvement. Thus my fifter, inflead of confulting her glass and her toilet for an hour and an half after her private devotions, fits with her note full of foull, and a man's night-cap on her head, reading Plays and Romances. Her wit she thinks her distinction; therefore knows nothing of the skill of dress, or making her person agreeable. It would make you laugh to see me often, with my spectacles on, lacing her stays; for she is to very a Wit, that the understands no ordinary thing in the world.

For this reason, I have disposed of her to a man of business, who will soon let her see, that to be well dressed, in good humour, and chearful in the command of her samily, are the arts and sciences of semale life. I could have bestowed her upon a fine Gentleman, who extremely admired her wit, and would have given her a coach and six: But I sound it absolutely necessary to cross the strain; for had they met, they had eternally been rivals

in discourse, and in continual contention for the superiority of understanding, and brought forth Critics, Pedants, or pretty good Poets. As it is, I expect an offspring sit for the habitation of the city, town, or country; creatures that are docile and tractable in what.

ever we put them to.

To convince men of the necessity of taking this method, let any one, even below the skill of an astrologer, behold the turn of faces he meets as soon as he passes. Cheapside Conduit, and you see a deep attention and a certain unthinking sharpness in every countenance. They look attentive, but their thoughts are engaged on mean purposes. To me it is very apparent, when I see a citizen pass by, whether his head is upon woollen, silks, iron, sugar, indigo, or stocks. Now this trace of thought appears or lies hid in the race for two or three generations.

I know at this time a person of a vast estate, who is the immediate descendant of a fine Gentleman, but the great grandson of a Broker, in whom his ancestor is now revived. He is a very honest Gentleman in his principles, but cannot for his blood talk fairly: He is heartily torry for it; but he cheats by constitution, and over-

reaches by inflinet.

The happiness of the man who marries my fifter will be, that he has no faults to correct in her but her own, a little bias of fancy, or particularity of manners, which grew in herfelf, and can be amended by her. From fuch an untainted couple, we can hope to have our family rife to its ancient splendor of face, air, countenance, manner, and shape, without discovering the product of ten nations in one house. Obadiah Greenhat savs, he never comes into any company in England, but he diffinguishes the different nations of which we are composed: There is scarce such a living creature as a true Briton. We fit down indeed all friends, acquaintance, and neighbours; but after two bottles, you fee a Dane fart up and fwear, The kingdom is his own. A Saxon drinks up the whole quart, and swears, He will dispute that with him. A Norman tells them both, He will affert his liberty: And a Welshman cries, They are all foreigners and intruders of yesterday, and beats them out of the room.

room. Such accidents happen frequently among neighbours children, and cousin-germans. For which reason I say, study your race, or the soil of your samily will dwindle into Cits or Esquires, or run up into Wits or Madmen.

Nº 76. Tuesday, October 4, 1709.

From my own Apartment, October 3.

It is a thing very much to be lamented, that a man must use a certain cunning to caution people against what it is their interest to avoid. All men will allow, that it is a great and heroic work to correct men's errors, and at the price of being called a common eremy, to go on in being a common friend to my fellow-subjects and citizens. But I am forced in this work to revolve the same thing in ten thousand lights, and cast them in as many forms, to come at men's minds and affections, in order to lead the innocent in safety, as well as disappoint the artifices of betrayers. Since therefore I can make no impression upon the offended; that is to say, I must whip my children for going into bad company, instead of railing at bad company for insnaring my children.

The greatest missortunes men fall into, arise from themselves; and that temper, which is called very often, though with great injustice, good-nature, is the source of a numberless train of evils. For which reason we are to take this as a rule, that no action is commendable which is not voluntary; and we have made this a maxim, "That man, who is commonly called good-natured, is hardly to be thanked for any thing he does, because half that is acted about him, is done rather by his fufferance than approbation." It is generally laziness of disposition, which chuses rather to let things pass the worst way, than to go through the pain of examination.

It must be confessed, such a one has so great a benevolence in him, that he bears a thousand uneasinesses, rather than he will incommode others; nay often, when he has just reason to be offended, chuses rather to sit down with a small injury, than bring it into reprehension, out of pure compassion to the offender. Such a person has it usually said of him, He is no man's enemy but his own; which is in effect saying, he is a friend to every man but himself and his friends: For by a natural consequence of his neglecting himself, he either incapacitates himself to be another's friend, or makes others cease to be his. If I take no care of my own-affairs, no man that is my friend, can take it ill if I am negligent also of his. This soft disposition, if it continues uncorrected, throws men into a sea of dissipulties.

There is Euphusius, with all the good qualities in the world, deferves well of no body: That universal goodwill, which is so strong in him, exposes him to the affault of every invader upon his time, his conversation. and his property. His diet is butchers meat, his wenches are in plain pinners and Nerwich crapes, his drefs like other people, his income great; and yet has he feldom a guinea at command. From these easy Gentlemen, are collected effates by fervants or gamefters; which latter fraternity are excusable, when we think of this clan, who feem born to be their prey. All therefore of the family of Actaon are to take notice, That they are hereby given up to the brethrer of the Industry, with this referve only, that they are to be marked as firicken deer, not for their own fakes, but to preserve the herd from foll wing them, and coming within the fcent.

I am obliged to leave this important subject, without telling whose quarters are severed, who has the humbles, who the haunch, and who the fides, of the last stag that was pulled down; but this is only deferred in hopes my deer will make their escape without more admonstrans or examples, of which they have had, in mine and the town's opinion, too great a plenty. I must, I say, at

prefent go to other matters of moment.

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White's Chocolate-house, Ochober 3.

The Lady has answered the letter of Mr. Alexander Landlord, which was published on Thursday last, but in such a manner as I do not think fit to proceed in the affair; for she has plainly told him, that love is her defign, but marriage her aversion. Bless me! what is this age come to, that people can think to make a pimp of an astronomer.

I shall not promote such designs, but shall leave her to find out her admirer, while I speak to another case fent to me by a letter of September the thirtieth, subscribed, Lovewell Barebones, where the Author defires me to fufpend my care of the dead, until I have done fomething for the dying. His case is, that the Lady he loves, is ever accompanied by a kinfwoman, one of those gay cunning women, who prevent all the love which is not addressed to themselves. This creature takes upon her in his mistress's presence to ask him, Whether Mrs. Florimel, that is the cruel one's name, is not very handfome? Upon which he looks filly, then they both laugh out, and she will tell him, That Mrs. Florimel had an equal passion for him, but desired him not to expect the first time to be admitted in private; but that now he was at liberty before her only, who was her friend, to speak his mind, and that his mistress expected it. Upon which Florimel acts a virgin-confusion, and with some disorder waits his speech. Here ever follows a deep filence; after which a loud laugh. Mr. Barebones aplies himself to me on this occasion. All the advice 1 can give him is to find a Lover for the confidenc, for there is no other bribe will prevail; and I fee by her carriage, that it is no hard matter, for the is too gay to have a particular passion, or to want a general one.

Some days ago the town had a full charge laid against my Essays, and printed at large. I altered not one word of what he of the contrary opinion said, but have blotted out some warm things said for me; therefore please to hear the council for the defendant, though I shall be so no otherwise than to take a middle way, and, if possible,

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keep commendations from being infipid to men's tafte, or raillery pernicious to their characters.

Mr. BICKERSTAFF,

Sept. 30.

A S I always looked upon fatire as the best friend to reformation, whilst its lashes were general; " fo that Gentleman * must excuse me, if I do not see " the inconvenience of a method he is so much con-" cerned at. The errors he assigns in it, I think, are " comprised" in the desperation men are generally driven to, when by a public detection they fall under the infamy they feared, who otherwise, by checking their bridle, might have recovered their stumble, and through a felf-conviction become their own reformers: So he that was before but a clandefline disciple, (to use his own quotation) is now become a Doctor in impiety. "The little success that is to be expected by these me-" thods from a hardened offender, is too evident to in-" fitt on; yet it is true, there is a great deal of charity " in this fort of reasoning, whilft the effects of those " crimes extend not beyond themselves. But what re-" lation has this to your proceedings? It is not a circum. ce flantial gueffing will ferve the turn, for there are more "than one to pretend to any of your characters; but there must at least be formething that must amount to " a nominal description, before even common same can · feparate me from the rest of mankind to dart at. A " general representation of an action, either ridiculous " or enormous, may make those which we find too " much similicude in the character with themselves to of plead not guilty; but none but a witness to the crime can charge them with the guilt, whilst the indictment " is general, and the offender has the afylum of the " whole world to protect him. Here can then be no "injustice, where no one is injured; for it is them-" felves must appropriate the saddle, before scandal can er ride them.

"Your method then, in my opinion, is no way subif jest to the charge brought against it; but on the contrary, I believe this advantage is too often drawn

^{*} See Taile, No 74. September 29.

Nº -6. of from it, that whilft we laugh at, or deteff, the un-" certain subject of the fatire, we often find something in the error a parallel to ourselves; and being insen-" fibly drawn to the comparison we would get rid of, " we plunge deeper into the mire, and shame produces " that which advice has been too weak for; and you, " Sir, get converts you never thought of. " As for descending to characters below the dignity " of fatire; what men think are not beneath commission, " I must assure him, I think are not beneath reprocf: " For as there is as much folly, in a ridiculous de-" portment, as there is enormity in a criminal one, for " neither the one nor the other ought to plead exemp-

"tion. The kennel of curs are as much enemies to " the flate, as Greg for his confederacy; for as this betrayed our government, so the other does our proor perty, and one without the other is equally uscless. " As for the act of oblivion he fo strenuously infints on, " Le Roy s'avifera * is a fashionable an wer; and for

his modus of panegyric, the hint was unnecessary, where virtue need never ask twice for her laurel. " But as for his reformation by opposites, I again muth " ask his pardon, if I think the effects of these fort of " reasonings, by the paucity of converts, are too great

" an argument, both of their imbecillity and unfue-" cessfulness, to believe it will be any better than min-" pending of time, by fuspending a method that well

" turn more to advantage, and which his no other " danger of losing ground, but by discontinuance. " And as I am certain, of what he supposes, that your

" Lucubrations are intended for the public benefit; " fo I hope you will not give them fo great an inter-" ruption, by laying afide the only method that can " render you beneficial to mankind, and, among others,

" agreeable to,

Sir.

Your humble fervant, &c.

. i. e. the King will confider of it.

St. James's Coffee-house, October 3.

Letters from the camp at Havre of the seventh instant, N. S. advise, that the trenches were opened before Mon; on the twenty-seventh of the last mouth, and the anproaches were carried on at two attacks with great application and fuccess, notwithstanding the rains which had fallen; that the befiegers had made themselves mallers of feveral redoubts, and other outworks, and had advanced the approaches within ten paces of the counter scarps of the hornwork. Lieutenant-General Cadogan received a flight wound in the neck foon after opening the trenches.

The enemy were throwing up intreachments between Quefnoy and Valenciennes, and the Chevalier de Luxemburg was encamped near Charleroy with a body of ten thousand men. Advices from Catalonia by the way of Genoa import, that Count Staremberg having paffed the Segra, advanced towards Balaguier, which place he took after a few hours refittance, and made the garrison, confitting of three Spanish battalions, prisoners of war. Letters from Bern fay, that the army under the command of Count Thain had began to repair the mountains, and would frontly evacuate Savey.

- " Whereas Mr. Bill of Rhas received intelligence, " that a voing Centeman, v ho has taken my difcouries
- " uson I on Pactical e and others in too literal a fense,
- " nd is fuir g an elder brother to an ejectment; the " aforefaid young Gentleman is hereby advised to drop
- " his action, no man being effeemed dead in law, who
- " eats and drinks, and receives his rents."

Nº 77. Thursday, October 6, 1709.

From my own Apartment, O&ober 5.

A S bad as the world is, I find by very strict observation upon virtue and vice, that if men appeared no worse than they really are, I should have less work than at present I am obliged to undertake for their reformation. They have generally taken up a kind of inverted ambition, and affect even faults and impersections of which they are innocent. The other day in a cosseshouse I shood by a young heir, with a fresh, sanguine, and healthy look, who entertained us with an account of his claps and his diet-drink; though, to my know-

ledge, he is as found as any of his tenants.

This worthy youth put me into reflections upon that subject; and I observed the fantaltical humour to be so general, that there is hardly a man who is not more or less tainted with it. The first of this order of men are the Valerulinarians, who are never in health; but complain of want of demaches reit every day until noon, and then devour all which comes before them. Lady Dainty is convinced, that it is a coffery for a Centless mun to be out of order; and to preferve that character, the dines every day in her closet at twelve, that she may become her table at two, and be unable to eat in public. About five years ago, I remember it was the fashion to be shortfighted. A man would not own an acquaintance until he had first examined him with his class. At a Lady's entrance into the play-house, you might see tubes immediately levelled at her from every quarter of the pit and fide-boxes However, that mode of infirmity is out, and the age he recovered its fight: But the blind feem to be fucceeded by the lame, and a junty limp is the present beauty. I think I have formerly observed, a cane is part of the drefs of a prig, and always worn upon H 4

a button, for fear he should be thought to have an occasion for it, or be esteemed really, and not genteely a cripple. I have confidered, but could never find out the bottom of his vanity. I indeed have heard of a Gascon General, who by the lucky grazing of a bullet on the roll of his flocking, took occasion to halt all his life after. But as for our peaceable cripples, I know no foundation for their behaviour, without it may be supposed that in this warlike age, some think a cane the next ho-neur to a wooden leg. This fort of affectation I have known run from one limb or member to another. Before the Limpers came in, I remember a race of Lispers. fine persons, who took an aversion to particular letters in our language: Some never uttered the letter H; and others had as mortal an aversion to S. Others have had their fashionable defect in their ears, and would make you repeat all you faid twice over. I know an ancient friend of mine, whose table is every day furrounded with flatterers, that makes use of this, sometimes as a piece of grandeur, and at others as an art, to make them repeat their commendations. Such affectations have been indeed in the world in ancient times; but they fell into them out of politic ends. Alexander the Great had a wry neck, which made it the fathion in his court to carry their heads on one fide when they came into the prefence. One who thought to outfline the whole court, carried his head to over complaifantly, that this martial Prince one him to great a box on the ear, as fet all the heads of the court upright.

This humour takes place in our minds as well as bodies. I know at this time a young Gentleman, who talks atheitically all day in coffee-houses, and in his degrees of understanding fets up for a Free thinker; though it can be proved upon him, he fays his prayers every morning and evening. But this class of modern

Wits I shall referve for a chapter by ittelf.

Of the like turn are all your Marriage-haters, who rail at the nocle, at the words, " for ever and aye," and at the finite time are fecretly pining for some young Thing or other that makes their hearts ake by her refusal. The next to these, are such as pretend to govern their wives, and boat how ill they use them; when at

the same time, go to their houses, and you shall see them step as if they seared making a noise, and are as fond as an Alderman. I do not know, but sometimes these pretences may arise from a desire to conceal a contrary desect than that they set up for. I remember, when I was a young fellow, we had a companion of a very searful complexion, who, when we sat in to drink, would desire us to take his sword from him when he grew suddled, for it was his missortune to be quarrelsome.

There are many, many of these evils, which demand my observation; but because I have of late been thought fomewhat too fatirical, I shall give them warning, and declare to the whole world, that they are not true, but false hypocrites; and make it out, that they are good men in their hearts. The motive of this monstrous affectation in the abovementioned, and the like particulars, I take to proceed from that noble thirst of same and reputation which is planted in the hearts of all men. As this produces elegant writings and gallant actions in men of great abilities, it also brings forth spurious productions in men who are not capable of diffinguishing themselves by things which are really praise-worthy. As the defire of fame in men of true wit and gallantry flews itself in proper instances, the same defire in men who have the ambition without proper faculties, runs wild, and discovers itself in a thousand extravagancies, by which they would fignalize themselves from others, and gain a fet of admirers. When I was a middle-aged man, there were many focieties of ambitious young men in England, who, in their purfaits after fame, were every night employed in roafting Porters, smoaking Coblers, knocking down Watchmen, overturning Constables, breaking Windows, blackening Sign-posts, and the like immortal enterprizes, that dispersed their reputation throughout the whole kingdom. One could hardly find a knocker at a door in a whole street after a midnight expedition of these Branx Esprits. I was lately very much furprized by an account of my maid, who entered my bed-chamber this morning in a very great fright, and told me, the was afraid my parlour was haunted; for that the had found feveral panes of my wirdows broken, and the floor strewed with half-pence. I have 11 5

not yet a full light into this new way, but am apt to think, that it is a generous piece of wit that some of my contemporaries make use of, to break windows, and leave money to pay for them.

St. James's Coffee-house, October 5.

I have no manner of news more than what the whole town had the other day; except that I have the original Letter of the Marshal Boufflers to the French King, after the late battle in the woods, which I translate for the benefit of the English reader.

SIRE,

"HIS is to let your Majesty understand, that to your immortal honour, and the destruction of the confederates, your troops have lost another battle. Artagnan did wonders, Roban performed miracles, Guiche did wonders, Gattion performed miracles, the whole army distinguished themselves, and every body did wonders. And to conclude the wonders of the day, I can assure your Majesty, that though you have lost the field of battle, you have not lost an inch of ground. The enemy marched behind us with respect, and we ran away from them as bold as lions."

Letters have been sent to Mr Bickerslass, relating to the present state of the town of Bath, wherein the people of that place have desired him to call home the physicians. All gentlemen therefore of that profession are harby directed to return forthwith to their places of practice; and the stage coaches are required to take them in before other passengers, until there shall be a certificate signed by the Mayor or Mr. Powel, that there are but two Doctors to one patient less in town.

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Nº 78. Saturday, October 8, 1709.

From my own Apartment, Odober 7.

S your painters, who deal in history-pieces, often entertain themselves upon broken sketches, and smaller sourishes of the pencil; so I find some relief in firiking out mifcellaneous hints, and sudden tharts of fancy, without any order or connexion, after having fpent my felf on more regular and elaborate differtations. I am at prefent in this easy thate of mind sat down to my ferutoir; where, for the better disposition of my correfpondence, I have writ upon every drawer the proper title of its contents; as hypocrify, dice, patches, politics, love, duels, and so forth. My various advices are ranged under fuch feveral heads, faving only that I have a particular box for Pacslet, and another for Moneculus. I cannot but observe, that my duel-box, which is filled by the lettered men of honour, is fo very ill frelt, that it is hard to decypher their writings. My love-box, though on a guite contrary fabilect, filled with the works of the fairest hands in Great-Britain, is almost as unintelligible. The private drawer, which is facted to politics, has in it fome of the most refined panegyrics and fatires that any age has produced.

I have now before me tereral recommendations for places at my Table of Fame: Three of them are of an extraordinary nature, in which I find I am mifunder-flood, and shall therefore beg leave to produce them. They are from a quaker, a courtier, and a citizen.

ISAAC,

HY Lucubrations, as thou lovest to call them, have been perused by several of our friends,

[&]quot; who have taken offence: Foraf, nuch as thou excludeft

out of the brotherhood all persons who are praiseworthy for religion, we are afraid that thou wilt fill

thy Table with none but heathers, and cannot hope to spy a Brother there; for there are none of us who

" can be placed among murdering Heroes, or ungodly Wits; fince we do not affail our enemies with the arm

of flesh, nor our gainsayers with the vanity of human wisdom. If therefore thou wilt demean thyself on

"this occasion with a right judgment, according to the gifts that are in thee, we desire thou wilt place James

" Naylor at the upper end of thy Table.

Ezekiel Stiffrump.

In answer to my good friend Exekiel, I must stand to it, that I cannot break my rule for the sake of James Naylor; not knowing, whether Alexander the Great, who is a choleric hero, would not resent his sitting at the upper end of the table with his hat on.

But to my Courtier.

SIR,

"I AM furprised, that you lose your time in complimenting the dead, when you may make your court to the living. Let me only tell you in the ear, "Alexander and Cæsar, as generous as they were formerly, have not now a groat to dispose of. Fill your Table with good company: I know a person of Quality that shall give you one hundred pounds, for a place at it. Be secret, and be rich.

Yours,

You know my hand.

This Gentleman frems to have the true spirit, without the formality of an under courtier; therefore I shall be plain with him, and let him teave the name of his courtier, and one hundred pounds in Marphone's hands: It I can take it, I will.

My citizen writes the following:

Mr. ISAAC BICKERSTAFF,

SIR,

OUR Tatler, the thirteenth of September I am now reading, and in your list of famous men, defire you not to forget Alderman Whittington, who began the world with a cat, and died worth three hundred and fifty thousand pounds sterling, which he left to an only daughter three years after his Mayor-alty. If you want any further particulars of ditto Alderman, daughter, or cat, let me know, and per first will advise the needful: Which concludes,

Your loving friend,

Lemuel Leger.

I shall have all due regard to this Gentleman's recommendation; but cannot forbear observing how wonderfully this fort of style is adapted for the dispatch of business, by leaving out insignificant particles: Besides that, the dropping of the first person is an artful way, to disengage a man from the guilt of rash words or promises. But I am to consider, that a citizen's reputation is Credit, not Fame; and am to leave these losty subjects for a matter of private concern in the next Letter before me.

SIR,

"I AM just recovered out of a languishing sickness by the care of Hippocrates, who visited me throughout my whole illness, and was so far from taking any fee, that he enquired into my circumstances, and would have relieved me also that way, but I did not want it. I know no method of thanking him, but recommending it to you to celebrate to great humanity in the manner you think fit, and to do it with the spirit and sentiments of a man just relieved from

" grief, misery, and pain, to joy, satisfaction, and ease:
" In which you will represent the grateful sense of

Your obedient servant,

T. B.

I think the writer of this Letter has put the matter in as good a dress as I can for him; yet I cannot but add my applause to what this distressed man has faid. There is not a more useful man in a commonwealth than a good Physician; and by confequence no worthier a person than he that uses his skill with generofity, even to perfons of condition, and compassion to those who are in want: Which is the behaviour of Hippocrates, who shews as much liberality in his practice, as he does wit in his conversation, and skill in his profession. A wealthy Doctor, who can help a poor man, and will not without a fee, has less sense of humanity than a poor ruffian, who kills a rich man to fupply his necessities. It is something monstrous, to consider a man of a liberal education tearing out the bowels of a poor family, by taking for a vifit what would keep them a week. Hippocrates needs not the comparison of such extortion to set off his generofity; but I mention his generofity to add shame to such extortion.

"This is to give notice to all ingenious Gentlemen in and about the cities of London and Westminster, who have a mind to be instructed in the noble sciences of music, poetry, and politics, that they repair to the Smyrna Coffee-house in Pall mall, betwixt the hours of eight and ten at night, where they may be instructed gratis, with elaborate Essays by word of mouth on all or any of the above-mentioned arts. The disciples are to prepare their bodies with three dishes of bohea, and purge their brains with two pinches of snuff. If any young student gives indication of parts, by listening attentively, or asking a pertinent question, one of the professors shall distinguish him, by taking

" fnuff out of his box in the presence of the whole

" audience.

"N. B. The feat of learning is now removed from the corner of the chimney on the left-hand towards the window, to the round table in the middle of the floor over-against the fire; a revolution much lamented by the porters and chairmen, who were much edified through a pane of glass that remained broken all the last summer."

"I cannot forbear advertising my correspondents, " that I think myself treated by some of them after too " familiar a manner, and in phrases that neither be-" come them to give, nor me to take. I shall therefore " defire for the future, that if any one returns me an " answer to a Letter, he will not tell me he has receiv-" ed the favour of my Letter; but if he does not think " fit to fay, he has received the Honour of it, that he " tell me in plain English, he has received my Letter of " fuch a date. I must likewise infist, that he would " conclude with, I am with great respect, or plainly, I " am, without farther addition; and not infult me, by " an affurance of his being with great Truth and Effeem " my humble fervant. There is likewise another mark " of superiority which I cannot bear, and therefore " must inform my correspondents, that I discard all " faithful humble servants, and am resolved to read no " Letters that are not subscribed, Your most obedient, " or most humble servant, or both. These may appear " niceties to vulgar minds, but they are such as men of " honour and diffinction must have regard to. And I " very well remember a famous duel in France, where " four were killed of one fide, and three of the other, " occasioned by a Gentleman's subscribing himself a " most affectionate friend."

One in the morning of the Eighth of October, 1709.

"I was this night looking on the moon, and find by certain figns in that luminary, that a certain person s under her dominion, who has been for many years distempered, will within few hours publish a pambel, wherein he will pretend to give my Lucubrations."

" tions to a wrong person; and I require all sober dif-

" posed persons to avoid meeting the faid lunatic, or giving him any credence any farther than pity de-

mands; and to lock up the faid person wherever they " find him, keeping him from pen, ink, and paper.

"And I hereby prohibit any person to take upon him my writings, on pain of being sent by me into Lethe

" with the faid lunatic and all his works."

N° 79. Tuesday, October 11, 1709.

Felices ter, & amplius, Quos irrupta tenet copula; nec malis Divulsus querimoniis Suprêma citius solvet amor die.

Hor. Od. 13. l. 1. ver. 17.

Thrice happy they, in pure delights Whom love in mutual bonds unites, Unbroken by complaints or firife Even to the latest hours of life.

FRANCIS.

From my own Apartment, October 10.

Y fister Jenny's Lover, the honest Tranquillus, for that shall be his name, has been impatient with me to dispatch the necessary directions for his Marriage; that while I am taken up with imaginary ichemes, as he calls them, he might not burn with real defire, and the torture of expectation. When I had represended him for the arcor wherein he expressed h mtelf, which I thought had not enough of that vereration with which the Marriage-bed is to be alcended, I told him, the day of he Ive al floule be on the Saturday following, which was he on his liftent. On the feventh in the even in the come into my chanther, and having he had a reat change of life from a virgin condition

condition to that of a wife, she long fat filent. I faw the expected me to entertain her on this important subject, which was too delicate a circumstance for herself to touch upon; whereupon I relieved her modesty in the following manner: Sifter, faid I, you are now going from me: And he contented, that you leave the company of a talkative old man, for that of a fober young one: But take this along with you, that there is no mean in the flate you are entering into, but you are to be exquifitely happy or miserable, and your fortune in this way of life will be wholly of your own making. In all the Marriages I have ever feen, most of which have been unhappy ones, the great cause of evil has proceeded from flight occasions; and I take it to be the first maxim in a married condition, that you are to be above trifles. When two persons have so good an opinion of each other as to come together for life, they will not differ in matters of importance, because they think of each other with respect, in regard to all things of consideration that may affect them, and are prepared for mutual affistance and relief in fuch occurrences; but for less occasions, they have formed no refolutions, but leave their minds unprepared.

This, dear Jonny, is the reason that the quarrel between Sir Harry Willit and his Lady, which began about her squirrel, is irreconcileable. Sir Harry was reading a grave Author; she runs into his study, and in a playing humour, claps the fquirrel upon the Folio: He threw the animal in a rage on the floor; she fnatches it up again, calls Sir Harry a four pedant, without good nature or good manners. This cast him into such a rage, that he threw down the table before him, kicked the book round the room; then recollected himself: Lord, Madam, faid he, why did you run into fuch expressions? I was, faid he, in the highest delight with that Author, when you clapped your fquirrel upon my book; and fmiling, added upon recollection, I have a great respect for your favourite, and pray let us all be friends. My Lady was so far from accepting this apology, that she immediately conceived a resolution to keep him under for ever; and, with a ferious air, replied, There is no regard to be had to what a man fays, who can fall into

muffy.

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fo indecent a rage, and fuch an abject fubmission, in the fame moment, for which I absolutely despise you. Upon which the rushed out of the room. Sir Harry staid some minutes behind, to think and command himself; after which he followed her into her bed-chamber, where the was proftrate upon the bed, tearing her hair, and naming twenty coxcombs who would have used her otherwise. This provoked him to fo high a degree, that he forbore nothing but beating her; and all the servants in the family were at their feveral stations listening, whilst the best man and woman, the best master and mistress, defamed each other in a way that is not to be repeated even at Billing fgate. You know this ended in an immediate separation: She longs to return home, but knows not how to do it: He invites her home every day, and lies with every woman he can get. Her husband requires no submission of her; but she thinks her very return will argue she is to blame, which she is resolved to be for ever, rather than acknowledge it.

Thus, dear Jenny, my great advice to you is, be guarded against giving or receiving little provocations. Great matters of offence I have no reason to fear either from you or your husband. After this, we turned our discourse into a more gay style, and parted: But before we did so, I made her resign her snuff-box for ever, and half drown herself with washing away the stench of the

But the wedding morning arrived, and our family being very numerous, there was no avoiding the inconvenience of making the ceremony and festival more public, than the modern way of celebrating them makes me approve of. The Bride next morning came out of her chamber, dressed with all the art and care that Mrs. Toilet the tire-woman could bestow on her. She was on her wedding-day three and twenty: Her person is far from what we call a regular beauty; but a certain sweetness in her countenance, an ease in her shape and motion, with an unaffected modesty in her looks, had attractions beyond what symmetry and exactness can inspire without the addition of these endowments. When her Lover entered the room, her features stussed with

shame and joy; and the ingenuous manner, so full of

paffion and of awe, with which Tranquillus approached to falute her, gave me good omens of his future behaviour towards her. The Wedding was wholly under my care. After the ceremony at church, I was resolved to entertain the company with a dinner fuitable to the occasion, and pitched upon the Apollo, at the Old-devil at Temple-bar, as a place facred to mirth, tempered with discretion, where Ben Johnson and his sons used to make their liberal meetings. Here the chief of the Staffian race appeared; and as foon as the company were come into that ample room, Lepidus Wag faff began to make me compliments for choosing that place, and fell into a discourie upon the subject of pleasure and entertainment, drawn from the rules of Ben's Club, which are in gold letters over the chimney. Lepidus has a way very uncommon, and speaks on subjects on which any man else would certainly offend, with great dexterity. He gives us a large account of the public meetings of all the wellturned minds who had paffed through this life in ages palt, and closed his pleasing narrative with a discourse on Marriage, and a repetition of the following verses out of Milton :

Hail, wedded love! mysterious law! true source Of human offspring, fole propriety In paradife, of all things common elfe. By thee adult'rous luft was driven from men Among the bestial herds to range; by thee, Founded in reason, loyal, just, and pure, Relations dear, and all the charities Of father, fon, and brother, first were known. Perpetual fountain of domestic sweets, Whose bed is undefil'd, and chaste pronounc'd, Present or past, as faints or patriarchs us'd. Here Love his golden shafts employs; here lights His constant lamp, and waves his purple wing Reigns here, and revels not in the bought im Of harlots, loveless, joyless, unindear'd, Casual fruition; nor in court amours, Mix'd dance, or wanton mask, or midnight ball, Or ferenade, which the stary'd lover fings To his proud fair, best quitted with disdain.

In these verses, all the images that can come into a young woman's head on such an occasion are raised; but that in so chaste and elegant a manner, that the Bride thanked him for his agreeable talk, and we sat down to dinner.

Among the rest of the company, there was got in a fellow you call a Wag. This ingenious person is the usual life of all feasts and merriments, by speaking abfurdities, and putting every body of breeding and modesty out of countenance. As foon as we fat down, he drank to the Bride's diversion that night; and then made twenty double meanings on the word Thing. We are the best-bred family, for one so numerous, in this kingdom; and indeed we should all of us have been as much out of countenance as the Bride, but that we were relieved by an honest rough relation of ours at the lower end of the table, who is a Lieutenant of marines. The foldier and failor had good plain fense, and faw what was wrong as well as another; he had a way of looking at his plate, and speaking aloud in an inward manner; and whenever the Wag mentioned the word Thing, or the words, "That fame," the Lieutenant in that voice cried, "Knock him down." The merry man wondering, angry, and looking round, was the diversion of the table. When he offered to recover, and fay, to the Bride's best thoughts, "Knock him down," fays the Lieutenant, and so on. This filly humour diverted, and faved us from the fulfome entertainment of an illbred coxcomb; and the Bride drank the Lieutenant's health. We returned to my lodging, and Tranquillus ed his wife to her apartment, without the ceremony of throwing the stocking, which generally costs two or three maidenheads, without any ceremony at all.

Nº 80. Thursday, October 13, 1709.

Grecian Coffee-house, October 12.

HIS learned board has complained to me of the exorbitant price of late years put upon Books, and confequently on Learning, which has raifed the reward demanded by learned men for their advice and labour. In order to regulate and fix a standard in these matters; Divines, Physicians, and Lawyers have fent in large proposals, which are of great light and instruction. From the perusal of these memorials, I am come to this immediate resolution, until I have leisure to treat the matter at large, viz. In Divinity, Fathers shall be valued according to their antiquity; Schoolmen by the pound weight; and Sermons by their goodness. In my own profession, which is mostly Physic, Authors shall be rated according to their language. The Greek is fo rarely understood, and the English so well, I judge them of no value; fo that only Latin shall bear a price, and that too according to its purity, and as it serves best for prefcription. In Law, the value must be set according to the intricacy and obscurity of the Author, and blackness of the letter; provided always, that the binding be of calves-skin. This method I shall settle also with relation to all other writings; infomuch that even thefe our Lucubrations, though hereafter printed by Aldus, Elzevir, or Stephanus, shall not advance above one fingle penny.

White's Chocolate-house, October 12.

It will be allowed me, that I have all along shewed great respect in matters which concern the Fair Sex; but the inhumanity with which the Author of the sollowing Letter has been used, is not to be suffered.

SIR,

October 9.

" TEfterday I had the misfortune to drop in at my Lady inaughty's, upon her vifiting-day. When " I entered the room where she receives company, they " all stood up indeed; but they stood as if they were to " ftare at rather than to receive me. After a long paule, " a fervant brought a round flool, on which I fat down " at the lower end of the room, in the presence of no " lets than twelve persons, Gentlemen and Ladies, " lolling in elbow-chairs. And, to complete my dif-" grace, my mistress was of the society. I tried to " compose myself in vain, not knowing how to disof pose of either my legs or arms, nor how to shape my " countenance; the eyes of the whole room being still " upon me in a profound filence. My confusion was at " last so great, that without speaking, or being spoken " to, I fled for it, and left the affembly to treat me at " their discretion. A lecture from you upon these in-" human distinctions in a free nation, will, I doubt not, " prevent the like evils for the future, and make it, as " we fay, as cheap fitting as standing. I am, with the " greateit respect,

Sir,

Your most humble, and

most obedient fervant,

7. R.

P. S. I had almost forgot to inform you, "That a "fair young Lady sat in an armless chair upon my right hand, with manifest discontent in her looks."

Soon after the receipt of this Epistle, I heard a very gentle knock at my door: My maid went down, and brought up word, that a tall, lean, black man, well dressed, who said he had not the honour to be acquainted with me, desired to be admitted. I bid her shew him

up, met him at my chamber-door, and then fell back a few paces. He approached me with great respect, and told me with a low voice, he was the Gentleman that had been feated upon the round stool. I immediately recollected, that there was a joint-stool in my chamber, which I was afraid he might take for an instrument of diffinction, and therefore winked at my boy to carry it into my closet; I then took him by the hand, and led him to the upper end of my room, where I placed him in my great elbow-chair; at the same time drawing another without arms to it, for myself to fit by him. I then asked him, at what time this misfortune befel him? He answered, between the hours of seven and eight in the evening. I farther demanded of him, what he had eat or drank that day? He replied, nothing but a dish of water-gruel with a few plumbs in it. In the next place, I felt his pulle, which was very low and languish-These circumstances confirmed me in an opinion, which I had entertained upon the first reading of his Letter, that the Gentleman was far gone in the spleen. I therefore advised him to rise the next morning, and plunge into the cold bath, there to remain under water until he was almost drowned. This I ordered him to repeat fix days successively; and on the seventh, to repair at the wonted hour to my Lady Haughty's, and to acquaint me afterwards with what he shall meet with there; and particularly to tell me, whether he shall think they flared upon him fo much as the time before. The Gentleman imiled; and by his way of talking to me, shewed himself a man of excellent sense in all particulars, unless when a cane-chair, a round or a jointstool, were specen of. He opened his heart to me at the fame time concerning feveral other prievances; fuch as, being over-looked in public affemblies, having his bows unanswered, being helped last at table, and placed at the back part of a coach; with many other diffresses, which have withered his countenance, and worn him to a skeleton. Finding him a man of reason, I entered into the bottom of his dislemper. Sir, faid I, there are more of your constitution in this island of Great-Britain, than in any other part of the world; and I beg the fayour of you to tell me, whether you do not observe,

that you meet with most affronts in rainy days? He answered candidly, that he had long observed, that people were less saucy in sunshine than in cloudy weather. Upon which I told him plainly, his distemper was the spleen; and that though the world was very ill-natured, it was not so bad as he believed it. I farther assured him, that his use of the cold-bath, with a course of steel which I should prescribe him, would certainly cure most of his acquaintance of their rudeness, ill-behaviour, and impertinence. My patient smiled, and promised to observe my prescriptions, not forgetting to give me an account of their operation. This distemper being pretty epidemical, I shall, for the benefit of mankind, give the Public an account of the progress I make in the cure of it.

From my own Apartment, October 12.

The Author of the following Letter behaves himself fo ingenuously, that I cannot defer answering him any longer.

Honoured Sir,

October 6.

Have lately contracted a very honest and undisfembled claudication in my left foot, which will
be a double affliction to me, if, according to your
Tatler of this day, it must pass upon the world for a
piece of singularity and affectation. I must therefore
humbly beg leave to limp along the streets after my
own way, or I shall be inevitably ruined in coach-hire.
As soon as I am tolerably recovered, I promise to
walk as upright as a ghost in a tragedy, being not of
a stature to spare an inch of height that I can any way
pretend to. I honour your Lucubrations, and am,
with the most prosound submission,

Honoured Sir,

Your most dutiful, and

mod obedient fervant, &c.

Not doubting but the case is as the Gentleman reprefents, I do hereby order Mr. Morphew to deliver him out a licence, upon paying his fees, which shall impower him to wear a cane until the thirteenth of March next; sive months being the most I can allow for a sprain.

St. James's Coffee-house, October 12.

We received this morning a mail from Holland, which brings advice that the fiege of Mons is carried on with for great vigour and bravery, that we hope very suddenly to be masters of the place; all things necessary being prepared for making the assault on the horn-work and ravelin of the attack of Bertamont, the charge began with the fire of bombs and grenadoes, which was so hot, that the enemy quitted their post, and we lodged ourselves on those works without opposition. During this storm, one of our bombs fell into a magazine of the enemy, and blew it up. There are advices which say, the Court of France had made new offers of peace to the Consederates; but this intelligence wants confirmation.

N. S1. Saturday, October 15, 1709.

Hic manus ob patriam sugnando vulnera passi,—— Quique pii vates, & Phaebo digna locuti; Inventas aut qui vitam excoluere per artes, Quique sui memores alios secere merendo.

VIRG. Æn. 6. ver. 660.

Here patriots live, who for their country's good, In fighting fields were prodigal of blood;——Here poets worthy their inspiring god, And of unblemish'd life make their abode: And searching Wits, of more mechanic parts, Who grac'd their age with new-invented arts: Those who to worth their bounty did extend; And those who knew that bounty to commend.

DRYDEN.

From my own Apartment, Oslober 14.

HERE are two kinds of immortality; that which the Soul really enjoys after this life, and that imaginary existence by which men live in their Fame and reputation. The best and greatest actions have proceeded from the prospect of the one or the other of these; but my delign is to treat only of those who have chiefly proposed to themselves the latter, as the principal reward of their labours. It was for this reason that I excluded from my Tables of Fame all the great founders and votaries of religion; and it is for this reason also, that I am more than ordinary anxious to do justice to the persons of whom I am now going to speak; for since Fame was the only end of all their enterprizes and fludies, a man cannot be too for upulous in allotting them their due proportion of it. It was this confideration which made me call the whole body of the Learned to

fome

my assistance; to many of whom I must own my obligations for the catalogues of illustrious persons, which they have sent me in upon this occasion. I yesterday employed the whole afternoon in comparing them with each other; which made so strong an impression upon my imagination, that they broke my sleep for the first part of the sollowing night, and at length threw me into a very agreeable Vision, which I shall beg leave to describe in

all its particulars.

I dreamed that I was conveyed into a wide and boundless plain, that was covered with prodigious multitudes of people, which no man could number. In the midst of it there flood a mountain, with its head above the clouds. The fides were extremely fleep; and of fuch a particular structure, that no creature which was not made in an human figure could possibly ascend it. On a fudden there was heard from the top of it a found like that of a trumpet; but so exceeding sweet and harmonious, that it filled the hearts of those who heard it with raptures, and gave fuch high and delightful fenfations, as feemed to animate and raife human nature above itfelf. This made me very much amazed to find fo very few in that innumerable multitude, who had ears fine enough to hear or relish this music with pleasure: But my wonder abated, when, upon looking round m., I faw most of them attentive to three Sirens cloathed like goddesses, and distinguished by the names of Sloth, 1gnorance, and Pleafure. They were feated on three rocks, amidst a beautiful variety of groves, meadows, and rivulets, that lay on the borders of the mountain. While the base and groveling multitude of different nations, ranks, and ages, were littening to these delusive deities; those of a more erect aspect and exalted spirit, suparated the neelves from the rest, and marched in great bodies towards the mountain from whence they heard the found, which flill grew sweeter, the more they littened to it.

On a sudden methought this select band sprang forward, with a resolution to climb the ascent, and sollow the call of that heavenly music. Every one took something with him, that he thought might be of assistance to him in his march. Several had their swords drawn,

some carried rolls of paper in their hands, some had compasses, others quadrants, others telescopes, and others pencils: Some had laurels on heir heads, and others buskins on their legs: In fh .t, there was scarce any instrument of a mechanic art or liberal science, which was not made use of on this occasion. My good Dæmon, who flood at my right hand during the course of this whole vision, observing in me a burning defire to join that glorious company, told me, he highly approved that generous ardor with which I feemed transported; but at the same time advised me to cover my face with a mast all the while I was to labour on the ascent. I took his counfel, without enquiring into his reasons. The whole body now broke into different parties, and began to climb the precipice by ten thousand different paths. Several got into little alleys, which did not reach far up the hill, before they ended and led no farther; and I observed, that most of the artizans, which considerably diminished our number, fell into these paths.

We left another confiderable body of adventurers behind us, who thought they had discovered by-ways up the hill, which proved fo very intricate and perplexed, that after having advanced in them a little, they were quite loft among the feveral turns and windings; and though they were as active as any in their motions, they made but little progress in the ascent. These, as my guide informed me, were men of subtle tempers, and puzzled politics, who would supply the place of real wisdom with cunning and artifice. Among those who were far advanced in their way, there were some that by one false step fell backward, and lost more ground in a moment, than they had gained for many hours, or could he ever able to recover. We were now advanced very high, and observed, that all the different paths, which ran about the fides of the mountain, began to meet in two great roads; which infenfibly gathered the whole multitude of travellers into two great bodies. At a little distance from the entrance of each road, there stood an hideous phantom, that opposed our further passage. One of these apparitions had his right hand filled with darts, which he brandished in the face of all who came up that way: Crouds ran back at the appearance of it, and

cried out, Death. The spectre that guarded the other road, was Envy: She was not armed with weapons of destruction, like the former; but by dreadful hissings, noises of reproach, and a horrid distracted laughter, she appeared more frightful than death itself, infomuch that abundance of our company were discouraged from pasfing any further, and fome appeared ashamed of having come fo far. As for myfelf, I must confess my heart fhrunk within me at the fight of these ghastly appearances : But on a sudden, the voice of the trumpet came more full upon us, so that we felt a new resolution reviving in us; and in proportion as this resolution grew, the terrors before us seemed to vanish. Most of the company, who had fwords in their hands; marched on with great spirit, and an air of defiance, up the road that was commanded by Death; while others, who had Thought and Contemplation in their looks, went forward in a more composed manner up the road possessed by Envy. The way above these apparitions grew smooth and uniform, and was fo delightful, that the travellers went on with pleasure, and in a little time arrived at the top of the mountain. They here began to breathe a delicious kind of æther, and faw all the fields about them covered with a kind of purple light, that made them reflect with fatiffaction on their patt toils; and diffused a secret joy through the whole affembly, which shewed itself in every look and feature. In the midst of these happy fields there stood a palace of a very glorious structure: It had four great folding doors, that faced the four feveral quarters of the world. On the top of it was enthroned the Goddess of the mountain, who smiled upon her votaries, and founded the filver trumpet which had called them up, and cheared them in their passage to her palace. They had now formed themselves into several divisions; a band of historians taking their stations at each door, according to the persons whom they were to in-

On a sudden, the trumpet, which had hitherto sounded only a march, or point of war, now swelled all its notes into triumph and exultation: The whole fabric shook, and the doors slew open. The first who stepped forward, was a beautiful and blooming hero, and as I heard by

the murmurs round me, Alexander the Great. He was conducted by a croud of historians. The person, who immediately walked before him, was remarkable for an embroidered garment, who not being well acquainted with the place, was conducting him to an apartment appointed for the reception of fabulous heroes. The name of this false guide was Quintus Curtius. But Arrian and Plutarch, who knew better the avenues of this palace, conducted him into the great hall, and placed him at the upper end of the first Table. My good Dæmon, that I might fee the whole ceremony, conveyed me to a corner of this room, where I might perceive all that paffed, without being feen myfelf. The next who entered was a charming virgin, leading in a venerable old man that was blind. Under her left arm she bore a harp, and on her head a garland. Alexander, who was very well acquainted with Homer, flood up at his entrance, and placed him on his right hand. The virgin, who it feems was one of the nine fifters that attended on the Goddess of Fame, smiled with an inestable grace at their meeting, and retired.

Julius Cæfar was now coming forward; and though most of the historians offered their fervice to introduce him, he left them at the door, and would have no con-

ductor but him elf.

chearful aspect, and attended by persons of greater figure than any that appeared on this occasion. Plato was on his right hand, and X-nophon on his left. He bowed to Homer, and fat down by him. It was expected that Plato would himself have taken a place next to his master Societies; but on a sudden there was heard a great clamour of disputants at the door, who appeared with Aristotle at the head of them. That philosopher with some rudeness, but great strength of reason, convinced the whole table, that a title to the fifth place was his due, and took it accordingly.

He had scarce sat down, when the same beautiful virgin that had introduced Homer brought in another, who hung back at the entrance, and would have excused himself, had not his modesty been overcome by the invitation of all who sat at the table. His guide and beha-

viour

viour made me easily conclude it was Virgil. Cicero next appeared, and took his place. He had enquired at the door for one Lucceius to introduce him; but not finding him there, he contented himself with the attendance of many other writers, who all, except Sallust, appeared

highly pleased with the office.

We waited some time in expectation of the next Worthy, who came it with a great residue of historians, whose names I could not learn, most of them being natives of Carrbage. The person thus conducted, who was Hannibal, seemed much disturbed, and could not forbear complaining to the board, of the affronts he had met with among the Roman historians, who attempted, says he, to carry me into the subterraneous apartment; and perhaps would have done it, had it not been for the impartiality of this Gentleman, pointing to Polybius, who was the only person, except my own countrymen, that

was willing to conduct me hither.

The Carthaginian took his feat, and Pompoy entered with great dignity in his own person, and preceded by feveral historians. Lucan the poet was at the head of them, who observing Homer and Virgil at the table, was going to fit down himfelf, had not the latter whifpered him, that whatever pretence he might otherwise have had, he forfeited his claim to it, by coming in as one of the hillorians. Lucan was to exasperated with the repulle, that he muttered fomething to himself; and w s heard to fay, that fince he could not have a feat among them himself, he would bring in one who alone had more merit than their whole affembly: Upon which he went to the door, and brought in Caro of Utica. That great man approached the company with fuch an air, that shewed he contemned the honour which he laid a claim Observing the feat opposite to Cassar was vacant, he took possession of it, and spoke two or three smart fentences upon the nature of precedency, which, according to him, confifted not in place, but in intrinsic merit; to which he added, that the most virtuous man, where ever he was feated, was always at the upper end of the table. Socrates, who had a great spirit of raillery with his wisdom, could not forbear smiling at a virtue which took so little pains to make itself agreeable.

Cicero took the occasion to make a long discourse in praise of Cato, which he uttered with much vehemence. Cassar answered him with a great deal of seeming temper; but as I stood at a great distance from them, I was not able to hear one word of what they said. But I could not forbear taking notice, that in all the discourse which passed at the table, a word or nod from Homer decided

the controversy.

After a short pause Augustus appeared, looking round him with a ferene and affable countenance upon all the writers of his age, who flrove among themselves which of them should shew him the greatest marks of gratitude and respect. Virgil rose from the table to meet him; and though he was an acceptable guest to all, he appeared more fuch to the learned, than the military Worthies. The next man aftonished the whole toble with his appearance: He was flow, folemn, and fite in his behaviour, and wore a raiment curioufly wrought with Hieroglyphics. As he came into the middle of the room, he threw up the skirt of it, and discovered a golden thigh. Socrates, at the fight of it, declared against keeping company with any who were not made of flesh and blood; and therefore defired Disgenes the Laertian to lead him to the apartment allotted for fabulous Heroes, and Worthies of dubious existence. At his going out, he told them, that they did not know whem they diffinified; that he was now Pribagoras, the first of Philosophers, and that formerly he had been a very brave man at the fiege of Trey. That may be very true, faid Secrater; but you forget that you have likewife been a very great harlot in your time. This exclusion made way for Archimedes, who came forward with a febenie of mathematical figures in his hand; among which I observed a Cone and Cylinder.

Seeing this table full, I defired my guide, for variety, to lead me to the fabulous apartment, the roof of which was painted with Gorgons, Chimæra's, and Centaurs, with many other emblematical figures, which I wanted both time and skill to unriddle. The first table was almost full: At the upper end sat Hercules leaning an arm upon his club; on his right hand were Achilles and Unsee, and between them Eneas; on his left were

Hestor ,

Hector, Theseus, and Jason: The lower end had Orpheus, Æsop, Phalaris, and Museus. The ushers seemed at a loss for a twelsth man, when, methought, to my great joy and surprize, I heard some at the lower end of the table mention Isaac Bickerstaff: But those of the upper end received it with disdain; and said, if they must have

a British Worthy, they would have Robin Hood.

While I was transported with the honour that was done me, and burning with envy against my competitor, I was awakened by the noise of the cannon which were then fired for the taking of Mons. I should have been very much troubled at being thrown out of so pleasing a vision on any other occasion; but thought it an agreeable change to have my thoughts diverted from the greatest among the dead and fabulous Heroes, to the most famous among the real and the living.

Nº 82. Tuesday, October 18, 1709.

Ubi idem & maximus & honestissimus amor est, aliquando præstat morie jungi, quam vita distrahi. Val. Max.

Where there is the greatest and most honourable love, it is sometimes better to be joined in death, than separated in life.

From my own Apartment, October 17.

A FTER the mind has been employed on contemplations suitable to its greatness, it is unnatural to run into sudden mirth or levity; but we must let the Soul subside, as it rose, by proper degrees. My late considerations of the ancient Heroes impressed a certain gravity upon my mind, which is much above the little gratistication received from starts of humour and fancy, and threw me into a pleasing sadness. In this state of thought I have been looking at the sire, and in a pensive

manner reflecting upon the great misfortunes and calamities incident to human life; among which there are none that touch fo fenfibly as those which befal persons who eminently love, and meet with fatal interruptions of their happiness when they least expect it. The piety of children to parents, and the affection of parents to their children, are the effects of instinct: But the affection between lovers and friends is founded on reason and choice, which has always made me think the forrows of the latter much more to be pitied than those of the former. The contemplation of diffresses of this fort fostens the mind of man, and makes the heart better. It extinguishes the feeds of envy and ill-will towards mankind, corrects the pride of prosperity, and beats down all that fierceness and insolence which are apt to get into the minds of the daring and fortunate.

For this reason the wise Achenians, in their theatrical performances, laid before the eyes of the people the greatest afflictions which could befal human life, and infenfibly polished their tempers by fuch representations. Among the moderns, indeed, there has arose a chimerical method of disposing the fortune of the persons reprefented, according to what they call poetical juffice; and letting none be unhappy but those who deserve it. In such cases, an intelligent spectator, if he is concerned, knews he eight not to be fo; and can learn nothing from such a tenderness, but that he is a weak creature, whose passions cannot follow the dictates of his underflanding. It is very natural, when one is got into fuch a way of thinking, to recollect those examples of forrow which have made the throngest impression upon our imaginations. An instance or two of such you will give me

leave to communicate.

A young Gentleman and Lady of ancient and honourable houses in Cornevall, had from their childhood entertained for each other a generous and noble passion, which had been long opposed by their friends, by reason of the inequality of their fortunes; but their constancy to each other, and obedience to those on whom they depended, wrought so much upon their relations, that these celebrated lovers were at length joined in marriage. Soon after their nuptials, the bridegroom was obliged to

go into a foreign country to take care of a confiderable fortune, which was left him by a relation, and came very opportunely to improve their moderate circumstances. They received the congratulations of all the country on this occasion; and I remember it was a common sentence in every one's mouth, "You see how faithful love is "rewarded."

He took this agreeable voyage, and fent home every post fresh accounts of his success in his affairs abroad; but at last, though he designed to return with the next ship, he lamented in his Letters, that business would detain him some time longer from home; because he would give himself the pleasure of an unexpected arrival.

The young Lady, after the heat of the day, walked every evening on the fea-shore, near which she lived, with a familiar friend, her husband's kinswoman; and diverted herfelf with what objects they met there, or upon discourse of the future methods of life, in the happy change of their circumstances. They stood one evening on the shore together in a perfect tranquillity, observing the fetting of the fun, the calm face of the Deep, and the filent heaving of the waves, which gently rolled towards them, and broke at their feet; when at a distance her kinfwoman faw femething float on the waters, which the fancied was a cheft; and with a fmile told her, the faw it first, and if it came ashore full of jewels, she had a right to it. They both fixed their eyes upon it, and entertained themselves with the subject of the wreck, the coufin fill afferting her right; but promifing, if it was a prize, to give her a very ruch coral for the child of which she was then big, provided the might be godmother. Their mirth foon abated, when they observed, upon the nearer approach, that it was a human body. The young Lady, who had a heart naturally filled with pity and compailion, made many melanchely reflections on the occasion. Who knows, said the, but this man may be the only hope and heir of a wealthy house; the darling of indulgent parents, who are now in impertinent mirth, and pleaning themselves with the thoughts of offering him a bride they have got ready for him? or, may he not be the mailer of a family that wholly depended upon his life? There may, for aught we know, be half

a dozen fatherless children, and a tender wife, now exposed to poverty by his death. What pleasure might he have promifed himself in the different welcome he was to have from her and them? But let us go away; it is a dreadful fight! The best office we can do, is to take care that the poor man, whoever he is, may be decently buried. She turned away, when a wave threw the carcass on the shore. The kinfwoman immediately shrieked out. Oh, my coufin! and fell upon the ground. The unhappy wife went to help her friend, when she saw her own husband at her feet, and dropped in a swoon upon the body. An old woman, who had been the Gentleman's nurse, came out about this time to call the Ladies in to supper, and found her child, as she always called him, dead on the shore, her mistress and kinswoman both lying dead by him. Her loud lamentations, and calling her young mafter to life, foon awaked the friend from her trance; but the wife was gone for ever.

When the family and neighbourhood got together round the bodies, no one asked any question, but the

objects before them told the story.

Incidents of this nature are the more moving when they are drawn by perfons concerned in the catastrophe, notwithstanding they are often oppressed beyond the power of giving them in a distinct light, except we ga-

ther their forrow from their inability to speak it.

I have two original letters written both on the same day, which are to me exquisite in their different kinds. The occasion was this: A Gentleman who had courted a most agreeable young woman, and won her heart, obtained also the consent of her father, to whom the was an only child. The old man had a fancy that they should be married in the same church where he himself was, in a village in Westmorland, and made them set out while he was laid up with the gout at London. The Bridegroom took only his man, and the Bride her maid: They had the most agreeable journey imaginable to the place of marriage; from whence the Bridegroom writ the following Letter to his wise's father.

SIR,

Nº 83.

March 18, 1672.

FTER a very pleasant journey hither, we are preparing for the happy hour in which I am to be your fon. I affure you the Bride carries it, in the eye of the Vicar who married you, much beyond her mother; though he fays, your open fleeves, panta-100ns, and shoulder-knot, made a much better show than the finical dress I am in. However, I am con-" tented to be the second fine man this village ever faw. " and shall make it very merry before night, because I " shall write myself from thence,

Your most dutiful son,

T. D.

"The Bride gives her duty, and is as handsome as an " angel-I am the happiest man breathing."

The villagers were affembling about the church, and the happy couple took a walk in a private garden. The Bridegroom's man knew his mafter would leave the place on a fudden after the wedding, and feeing him draw his pillols the night before, took this opportunity to go into his chamber and charge them. Upon their return from the garden, they went into that room; and after a little fond raillery on the subject of their courtship, the lover took up a pistol, which he knew he had unloaded the night before, and presenting it to her, said, with the most graceful air, whilst she looked pleased at his agreeable fiattery; Now, Madam, repent of all those cruelties you have been guilty of to me; confider before you die, h w often you have made a poor wretch freeze under your casement; you shall die, you tyrant, you shall die, with all those instruments of death and destruction about you, with that inchanting smile, those killing ringlets of your hair --- Give fire, faid she, laughing. He did io; and that her dead. Who can speak his condition? But he bore it so patiently as to call up his man. poor wretch entered, and his mafter locked the door upon him. Will, faid he, did you charge these pistols? He

He answered, Yes. Upon which he shot him dead with that remaining. After this, amidst a thousand broken sobs, piercing groans, and distracted motions, he writ the following Letter to the father of his dead mistress.

SIR,

Who two hours ago told you truly, I was the happiest man alive, am now the most miserable. Your daughter lies dead at my feet, killed by my hand, through a mistake of my man's charging my pistols unknown to me. Him have I murdered for it. Such is my wedding day.—I will immediately follow my wife to her grave: But before I throw myself upon my sword, I command my distraction so far as to explain my story to you. I fear my heart will not keep together until I have stabbed it. Poor good old man!—Remember, he that killed your daughter, died for it. In the article of death I give you my thanks, and pray for you, though I dare not for myself. If it be possible, do not curse me."

Nº 83. Thursday, October 20, 1709.

Senilis studicia, que deliratio appellari solet, senum levium est, non omnium. M. T. C.

That which is usually called dotage is not the foible of all old men, but only of such as are remarkable for their levity and inconstancy.

From my own Apartment, October 19.

T is my frequent practice to visit places of resort in this town where I am least known, to observe what reception my Works meet with in the world, and what good effects I may promise myself from my labours:

And

And it being a privilege afferted by Monsieur Montaigne, and others, of vain-glorious memory, that we Writers of Essays may talk of ourselves: I take the liberty to give an account of the remarks which I find are made by some of my gentle Readers upon these my Differtations.

I happened this evening to fall into a Coffee-house near the Exchange, where two persons were reading my account of the Table of Fame. The one of these was commenting as he read, and explaining who was meant by this and the other Worthy as he passed on. I obferved the person over-against him wonderfully intent and fatisfied with his explanation. When he came to Julius Cafar, who is faid to have refused any conductor to the Table; No, no, faid he, he is in the right of it, he has money enough to be welcome wherever he comes; and then whispered, He means a certain Colonel of the Train-bands. Upon reading, that Aristotle made his claim with fome rudeness, but great strength of reason; Who can that be, fo rough and fo reasonable? It must be fome Whig, I warrant you. There is nothing but party in these public Papers. Where Pythagoras is said to have a golden thigh, Ay, ay, faid he, he has money enough in his breeches; that is the Alderman of our ward. You must know, whatever he read, I found he interpreted from his own way of life and acquaintance. I am glad my readers can construe for themselves these difficult points; but for the benefit of posterity, I defign, when I come to write my last Paper of this kind, to make it an explanation of all my former. In that piece, you shall have all I have commended, with their proper names. The faulty characters must be left as they are, because we live in an age wherein vice is very general, and virtue very particular; for which reason the latter only wants explanation.

But I must turn my present discourse to what is of yet greater regard to me than the care of my Writings; that is to say, the preservation of a Lady's heart. Little did I think I should ever have business of this kind on my hands more; but as little as any one who knows me would believe it, there is a Lady at this time who professes love to me. Her passion and good humour

you shall have in her own words.

Mr. BICKERSTAFF,

I Had formerly a very good opinion of myself; but it is now withdrawn, and I have placed it upon you, Mr. Bickerstaff, for whom I am not ashamed to declare, I have a very great passion and tenderness. It is not for your face, for that I never saw; your shape and height I am equally a stranger to: But your understanding charms me, and I am lost if you do not dissemble a little love for me. I am not without hopes; because I am not like the tawdry gay things that are sit only to make bone-lace. I am neither childish-young, nor bedlam old, but, the world says, a good agreeable woman.

"Speak peace to a troubled heart, troubled only for you; and in your next Paper let me find your thoughts

" of me.

" Do not think of finding out who I am, for notwith" standing your interest in Dæmons, they cannot help
you either to my name, or a sight of my face; therefore do not let them deceive you.

"I can bear no discourse, if you are not the subject;
and believe me, I know more of love than you do of

" Aftronomy.

"Pray, fay fome civil things in return to my generofity, and you shall have my very best pen employed
to thank you, and I will confirm it. I am

Your admirer,

Maria.

There is something wonderfully pleasing in the savour of women; and this Letter has put me in so good an humour, that nothing could displease me since I received it. My boy breaks glasses and pipes, and instead of giving him a knock on the pate, as my way is, for I hate scolding at servants, I only say, "Ah, Jack! thou hast a head, and so has a pin," or some such merry expression. But alas! how am I mortissed when he is putting on my sourth pair of stockings on these poor spindles of mine? "The sair one understands love bet-

ter than I Astronomy!" I am sure, without the help of that art, this poor meagre trunk of mine is a very ill habitation for love. She is pleased to speak civilly of my fense, but Ingenium male habitat is an invincible difficulty in cases of this nature. I had always, indeed, from a passion to please the eyes of the Fair, a great pleasure in dress. Add to this, that I have writ songs fince I was fixty, and have lived with all the circumspection of an old Beau, as I am. But my friend Horace has very well faid, " Every year takes fomething from " us;" and instructed me to form my pursuits and de-fires according to the stage of my life: Therefore I have no more to value myself upon, than that I can converse with young people without peevishness, or wishing myfelf a moment younger. For which reason, when I am amongst them, I rather moderate than interrupt their diversions. But though I have this complacency, I must not pretend to write to a Lady civil things, as Maria defires. Time was, when I could have told her, I had received a Letter from her fair hands; and, that if this Paper trembled as she read it, it then best expressed its Author, or fome other gay conceit. Though I never faw her, I could have told her, that good fense and good humour smiled in her eyes: That constancy and goodnature dwelt in her heart: That beauty and goodbreeding appeared in all her actions. When I was fiveand-twenty, upon fight of one fyllable, even wrong fpelt, by a Lady I never faw, I could tell her, that her height was that which was fit for inviting our approach, and commanding our respect; that a smile sat on her lips, which prefaced her expressions before the uttered them, and her aspect prevented her speech. All she could fay, though she had an infinite deal of wit, was but a repetition of what was expressed by her form; her form! which struck her beholders with ideas more moving and forcible, than ever were inspired by music, painting, or eloquence. At this rate I panted in those days; but, ah! fixty-three! I am very forry I can only return the agreeable Maria a passion expressed rather from the head than the heart.

Dear MADAM,

OU have already seen the best of me, and I so passionately love you, that I desire we may never meet. If you will examine your heart, you will find that you join the man with the philosopher: And is you have that kind opinion of my sense as you pretend, I question not, but you add to it complexion, air, and shape: But, dear Molly, a man in his grand climasteric is of no sex. Be a good girl; and conduct yourself with honour and virtue, when you love one younger than myself. I am, with the greatest tenderness,

Your innocent Lover,

I. B.

Will's Coffee-house, October 19.

There is nothing more common than the weaknesses mentioned in the following Epistle; and I believe there is hardly a man living who has not been more or less injured by it.

SIR.

Land's-End, October 12.

I Have left the town fome time; and much the fooner, for not having had the advantage, when I lived there, of fo good a pilot as you are to this present age. Your cautions to the young men against the vices of the town are very well: But there is one not less needful, which I think you have omitted. I had from the Rough Diamond (a Gentleman so called from an honest blunt with had) not long since dead, this observation, That a young man must be at least three or four years in Landon before he dares fay. No.

"You will easily see the truth and force of this obfervation; for I believe more people are drawn away
against their inclinations, than with them. A young
man is afraid to deny any body going to a tavern to
dinner; or, after being gorged there, to repeat the

" fame with another company at supper, or to drink

" excessively, if desired, or go to any other place, or

" commit any other extravagancy proposed. The fear

" of being thought covetous, to have no money, or to

" be under the dominion or fear of his parents and friends, hinder him from the free exercise of his un-

derstanding, and affirming boldly the true reason,

" which is, his real diffike of what is defired. If you

" could cure this flavish facility, it would fave abun-

" dance at their first entrance into the world. I am,

Sir.

Yours,

Solomon Afterwit.

This Epitle has given an occasion to a Treatise on this subject, wherein I shall lay down rules when a young stripling is to say, No; and a young virgin, Yes.

N. B. For the publication of this discourse, I wait only for subscriptions from the under graduates of each University, and the young Ladies in the boarding-schools of *Hackney* and *Chelsea*.

St. James's Coffee-house, October 19.

Letters from the Hague of the twenty-fifth of October, N. S. advise, that the garrison of Mons marched out on the twenty-third instant, and a garrison of the Allies marched into the town. All the forces in the field, both of the enemy and the confederates, are preparing to withdraw into winter-quarters.



Nº 84. Saturday, October 22, 1709.

From my own Apartment, October 21.

Have received a Letter subscribed A. B. wherein it has been represented to me as an enormity, that there are more than ordinary crowds of women at the Old Bailey when a Rape is to be tried: But by Mr. A. B's favour, I cannot tell who are so much concerned in that part of the law as the Sex he mentions, they being the only persons liable to such insults. Nor indeed do I think it more unreasonable that they should be inquisitive on fuch occasions than men of honour, when one is tried for killing another in a duel. It is very natural to enquire how the fatal pass was made, that we may the better defend ourselves when we come to be attacked. Several eminent Ladies appeared lately at the Court of Justice on fuch an occasion, and with great patience and attention staid the whole trials of two persons for the abovefaid crime. The law to me indeed feems a little defective in this point; and it is a very great hardship, that this crime, which is committed by men only, should have men only on their jury. I humbly therefore propole, that on future trials of this fort, half of the twelve may be women; and those such whose faces are well known to have taken notes, or may be supposed to remember what happened in former trials in the fame place. There is the learned Androgyne, that would make a good fore woman of the panel, who, by long attendance, understands as much law and anatomy as is necessary in this case. Until this is taken care of, I am humbly of opinion, it would be much more expedient that the Fair were wholly absent: For to what end can it be, that they should be present at such examinations, when they can only be perplexed with a fellow-feeling for the injured, without any power to avenge their fufferings. ferings. It is an unnecessary pain which the Fair Ones give themselves on these occasions. I have known a young woman shriek out at some parts of the evidence; and have frequently observed, that when the proof grew particular and strong, there has been such an universal stutter of sans, that one would think the whole semale audience were falling into sits. Nor indeed can I see how men themselves can be wholly unmoved at such tra-

gical relations.

In short, I must tell my Female Readers, and they may take an old man's word for it, that there is nothing in woman fo graceful and becoming as Modefly: It adds charms to their beauty, and gives a new foftness to their Sex. Without it, fimplicity and innocence appear rude; reading and good fense, masculine; wit and humour, lascivious. This is so necessary a qualification for pleasing, that the loofe part of womankind, whose study it is to enfnare mens hearts, never fail to support the appearance of what they know is so essential to that end: And I have heard it reported by the young fellows in my time, as a maxim of the celebrated Madam Bennet, that a young wench, though never fo beautiful, was not worth her board when she was past her blushing. This discourse naturally brings into my thoughts a Letter I have received from the virtuous lady Whittlestick, on the subject of Lucretia.

Coufin Ijaac,

From my Tea-table, Oa. 17.

Read your Tatler of Saturday last, and was surright prised to see you so partial to your own Sex, as
to think none of ours worthy to sit at your first table;
but sure you cannot but own Lucretia as samous as
any you have placed there, who sirst parted with her
virtue, and afterwards with her life, to preserve her
fame."

Mrs. Biddy Twig has written me a Letter to the same purpose: But in answer to both my pretty correspondents and kinswomen, I must tell them, that although I know Lucretia would have made a very graceful figure at the upper end of the table, I did not think it proper

to place her there, because I knew she would not care for being in the company of fo many men without her husband. At the same time I must own, that Tarquin himself was not a greater lover and admirer of Lucretia than I myfelf am in an honest way. When my fister Jenny was in her fampler, I made her get the whole ftory without book, and tell it me in needle-work. This illustrious Lady stands up in history as the glory of her own Sex, and the reproach of ours; and the circumflances under which she fell were so very particular, that they feem to make adultery and murder meritorious. She was a woman of fuch transcendent virtue, that her beauty, which was the greatest of the age and country in which she lived, and is generally celebrated as the highest of praise in other women, is never mentioned as a part of her character. But it would be declaiming to dwell upon fo celebrated a flory, which I mentioned only in respect to my kinswomen; and to make reparation for the omission they complain of, do further promise them, that if they can furnish me with instances to fill it, there shall be a small tea-table set a-part in my palace of fame for the reception of all of her character.

Grecian Coffee-house, October 21.

I was this evening communicating my defign of producing obscure merit into public view; and proposed to the learned, that they would please to assist me in the work. For the same end I publish my intention to the world, that all men of liberal thoughts may know they have an oportunity of doing justice to such worthy perfons as have come within their respective observation, and who by misfortune, modesty, or want of proper writers to recommend them, have escaped the notice of the rest of mankind. If therefore any one can bring any tale or tidings of illustrious persons, or giorious actions, that are not commonly known, he is defired to fend an account thereof to me at J. Morpheru's, and they shall have justice done them. At the same time that I have this concern for men and things that deserve reputation and have it not, I am refolved to examine into the claims of fuch Ancients and Moderns as are in possession of it with a defign to displace them, in case I find their titles defective. The first whose merits I shall enquire into. are some merry Gentlemen of the French nation, who have written very advantageous histories of their exploits in war, love, and politics, under the title of Memoirs. I am afraid I shall find several of these Gentlemen tardy. because I hear of them in no writings but their own. To read the narrative of one of these authors, you would fancy that there was not an action in a whole campaign, which he did not contrive or execute; yet if you confult the hittory, or Gazettes of those times, you do not find him so much as at the head of a party from one end of the fummer to the other. But it is the way of these great men, when they lie behind their lines, and are in a time of inaction, as they call it, to pass away their time in writing their exploits. By this means feveral who are either unknown or despised in the present age, will be famous in the next, unless a sudden stop be put to fuch pernicious practices. There are others of that gay people, who, as I am informed, will live half a year together in a garret, and write an history of their intrigues in the court of France. As for politicians, they do not abound with that species of men so much as we; but as ours are not fo famous for writing, as for extemporary differtations in coffee houses, they are more annoved with memoirs of this nature also than we are. The most immediate remedy that I can apply to prevent this growing evil, is, That I do hereby give notice to all Bookiellers and Translators whatsoever, that the word Memoir is French for a Novel; and to require of them, that they fell and translate it accordingly.

Will's Coffee-house, October 21.

Coming into this place to night, I met an old friend of mine, who a little after the Restoration writ an Epigram with some applause, which he has lived upon ever since; and by virtue of it, has been a constant frequenter of this cossee-house for forty years. He took me aside, and with a great deal of friendship told me, he was glad to see me alive; for, says he, Mr. Bickerstaff, I am forry to sind you have raised many enemies by your Lucubra-

tions. There are indeed some, says he, whose enmity is the greatest honour they can shew a man; but have you lived to these years, and do not know, that the ready way to disoblige, is to give advice? you may endeavour to guard your children, as you call them; but—He was going on; but I found the disagreeableness of giving advice without being asked, by my own impatience of what he was about to say: In a word, I begged him to

give me the hearing of a short fable.

A Gentleman, says I, who was one day slumbering in an arbour, was on a sudden awakened by the gentle biting of a lizard, a little animal remarkable for its love to mankind. He threw it from his hand with some indignation, and was rising up to kill it, when he saw an huge venemous serpent sliding towards him on the other side, which he soon destroyed; reslecting afterwards with gratitude upon his friend that saved him, and with anger against himself, that had shewn so little sense of a good office.

Nº 85. Tuesday, October 25, 1709.

From my own Apartment, October 24.

MY Brother Tranquillus, who is a man of business, came to me this morning into my study, and after very many civil expressions in return for what good estices I had done him, told me, he desired to carry his wife my fister that very morning to his own house. I readily told him I would wait upon him, without asking why he was so impatient to rob us of his good company. He went out of my chamber, and I thought seemed to have a little heaviness upon him, which gave me some disquiet. Soon after my sister came to me with a very matron-like air, and most sedate satisfaction in her looks, which spoke her very much at ease, but the traces of her countenance seemed to discover that she had been lately

lately in a passion, and that air of content to flow from a certain triumph upon some advantage obtained. She no fooner fat down by me, but I perceived she was one of those Ladies who begin to be managers within the time of their being brides .- Without letting her speak. which I faw she had a mighty inclination to do, I faid, here has been your hufband, who tells me he has a mind to go home this very morning, and I have confented to it. It is well, faid she, for you must know-Nay, Fenny, said I, I beg your pardon, for it is you must know-You are to understand, that now is the time to fix or alienate your husband's heart for ever; and I fear you have been a little indifcreet in your expressions or behaviour towards him, even here in my house. There has, fays she, been some words: But I will be judged by you if he was not in the wrong: Nay, I need not be judged by any body, for he gave it to himself, and said not a word when he faw me grow passonate, but, Madam, you are perfectly in the right of it: As you shall judge -Nay, Madam, faid I, I am judge already, and tell you, that you are perfectly in the wrong of it; for if it was a matter of importance, I knew he has better fense than you; if a trifle, you know what I told you on your wedding-day, that you were to be above little provocations. She knows very well I can be four upon occasion, therefore gave me leave to go on.

Sifter, faid I, I will not enter into the dispute between you, which I find his prudence put an end to before it came to extremity, but charge you to have a care of the first quariel, as you tender your happiness; for then it is, that the mind will reflect harfuly upon every circumflance that has ever paffed between you If fuch an accident is ever to happen, which I hope never will, be fure to keep to the circumstance before you; make no allusions to what is passed, or conclusions referring to what is to come: Do not shew an hoard of matter for diffension in your breast; but if it is necessary, lay before him the thing as you understand it, candidly, without being ashamed of acknowledging an error, or proud of being in the right. If a young couple be not careful in this point, they will get into an habit of wrangling. And when to displease is thought of no consequence, to

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please is always of as little moment. There is a play, Jenny, I have formerly been at when I was a student : We got into a dark corner with a porringer of brandy, and threw raisins into it, then set it on fire. My chamber-fellow and I diverted ourselves with the sport of venturing our fingers for the raifins; and the wantonness of the thing was, to fee each other look like a dæmon, as we burnt ourselves, and fnatched out the fruit. This fantattical mirth was called Snap Dragon. You may go into many a family, where you fee the man and wife at this fport: Every word at their table alludes to some passage between themselves; and you see by the paleness and emotion in their countenances, that it is for your fake, and not their own, that they forbear playing out the whole game in burning each other's fingers. In this cafe, the whole purpose of life is inverted, and the ambition turns upon a certain contention, who shall contradict bett, and not upon an inclination to excel in kindness and good offices. Therefore, dear Jenny, remember me, and avoid Snap Dragon.

I thank you, brother, faid the, but you do not know how he loves me; I find I can do any thing with him. If you can fo, why should you defire to do any thing but please him? But I have a word or two more before you go out of the room; for I fee you do not like the subject I am upon: Let nothing provoke you to fall upon an imperfection he cannot help; for if he has a refenting spirit, he will think your aversion as immoveable as the imperfection with which you upbraid him. But above all, dear Jenny, be careful of one thing, and you will be fomething more than woman; that is, a levity you are almost all guilty of, which is, to take a pleasure in your power to give pain. It is even in a mistress an argument of meannels of spirit, but in a wife it is injustice and ingratitude. When a sensible man once observes this in a woman, he must have a very great, or very little fpirit to overlook it. A woman ought therefore to confider very often, how few men there are who will regard

a meditated offence as a weakness of temper.

I was going on in my confabulation, when Tranquillus entered. She cast all her eyes upon him with much thame and confusion, mixed with great complacency and

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love, and went up to him. He took her in his arms, and looked so many soft things at one glance, that I could see he was glad I had been talking to her, sorry she had been troubled, and angry at himself that he could not disguise the concern he was in an hour before. After which he says to me, with an air aukward enough, but methought not unbecoming, I have altered my mind, brother; we will live upon you a day or two longer. I replied, that is what I have been persuading Jenny to ask of you, but she is resolved never to contradict your in-

clination, and refused me.

We were going on in that way which one hardly knows how to express; as when two people mean the fame thing in a nice case, but come at it by talking as distantly from it as they can; when very opportunely came in upon us an honest inconsiderable fellow, Tim Dapper, a Gentleman well known to us both. Tim is one of those who are very necessary, by being very inconfiderable. Tim dropped in at an incident, when we knew not how to fall into either a grave or a merry way. My fifter took this occasion to make off, and Dapper gave us an account of all the company he had been in today, who was, and who was not at home, where he This Tim is the head of a species: He is a little out of his element in this town; but he is a relation of Tranquillus, and his neighbour in the country. which is the true place of refidence for this species. The habit of a Dapper, when he is at home, is a light broad cloth with calamanco or red waistcoat and breeches; and it is remarkable, that their wigs feldom hide the collar They have always a peculiar fpring in of their coats. their arms, a wriggle in their bodies, and a trip in their gait. All which motions they express at once in their orinking, bowing, or faluting Ladies; for a distant imitation of a forward fop, and a refolution to evertop him in his way, are the diffinguishing marks of a Dapper. These under-characters of men are parts of the sociable world by no means to be neglected: They are like pegs in a building: They make no figure in it, but hold the structure together, and are as absolutely necessary as the pillars and columns. I am fure we found it fo this morning; for Tranquillus and I thould perhaps have Y

looked cold at each other the whole day, but Dopper fell in with his brisk way, shook us both by the hand, rallied the bride, mistook the acceptance he met with amongst us for extraordinary perfection in himself, and heartily pleased, and was pleased, all the while he stayed. His company left us all in good humour, and we were not such fools as to let it sink, before we consirmed it by great chearfulness and openness in our carriage the whole evening.

White's Chocolate-house, October 24.

I have been this evening to vifit a Lady who is a refation of the enamoured Cymbio, and there heard the melancholy news of his death. I was in hopes, that fox-hunting and October would have recovered him from his unhappy passion. He went into the country with a defign to leave behind him all thoughts of Clariffa; but he found that place only more convenient to think of her without interruption. The country Gentlemen were very much puzzled upon his case, and never finding him merry or loud in their company, took him for a Roman Catholic, and immediately upon his death feized his French Valet de Chambre for a Priest; and it is generally thought in the country, it will go hard with him next fessions. Poor Cynthio never held up his head after having received a Letter of Clariffa's marriage. Lady who gave me this account being far gone in Peetry and Romance told me, If I would give her an Epitaph, she would take care to have it placed on his tomb; which she herself had devised in the following manner: It is to be made of black marble, and every corner to be crowned with weeping Cupids. Their quivers are to be hung up upon two tall cypreis-trees, which are to grow on each fide of the monument, and their arrows to be laid in a great heap, after the manner of a funeral pile, on which is to lie the body of the deceased. On the top of each cypress is to thand the figure of a mourning turtle-dove. On the uppermost part of the monument, the Godders, to whom these birds are facred, is to sit in a dejected pollure, as weeping for the death of her votary. I need not tell you this Lady's head is a little turned: However,

However, to be rid of importunities, I promised her an Epitaph, and told her, I would take for my pattern that of Don Alonzo, who was no less famous in his age than Cynthio is in ours.

The EPITAPH.

Here lies Don Alenzo,
Stain by a wound receiv'd under
It is left pap;
The orifice of which was fo
Small, no Surgeon could
Discover it.

READER;

If thou would'st avoid so strange A death, Look not upon Lucinda's eyes.

Nº 86. Thursday, October 27, 1709.

Frem my own Apartment, October 2;.

When I came home last night, my servant delivered me the following Letter:

SIR.

October 24.

"Have orders from Sir Harry Quickset of Stafford"I shire, Baronet, to acquaint you, that his honour
"Sir Harry himself, Sir Giles Wheelbarrow, Knight,
"Thomas Rentfree, Esquire, Justice of the Quorum,
"Andrew Windmill, Esquire, and Mr. Nicholas Doubt
"of the Inner Temple, Sir Harry's grandson, will wait
"upon you at the hour of nine to-morrow morning,
"being Tuesday the twenty-fifth of October, upon business.

" ness which Sir Harry will impart to you by word of mouth. I thought it proper to acquaint you before

" hand so many persons of quality came, that you might not be surprized therewith. Which concludes,

though by many years absence fince I saw you at

" Stafford, unknown,

Sir,

Your most humble servant,

John Thriffy.

I received this message with less surprize than I believe Mr. Thristy imagined; for I knew the good company too well to feel any palpitations at their approach: But I was in a very great concern how I should adjust the ceremonial, and demean myself to all these great men, who perhaps had not seen any thing above themselves for these twenty years last past. I am sure that is the case of Sir Harry. Besides which, I was sensible that there was a great point in adjusting my behaviour to the simple Esquire, so as to give him satisfaction, and not

ciloblige the Justice of the Quorum.

The hour of nine was come this morning, and I had no fooner fet chairs, by the fleward's Letter, and fixed my tea-equipage, but I heard a knock at my door, which was opened, but no one entered; after which tollowed a long filence, which was broke at laft by, Sir, I beg your pardon; I think I know better: And another voice, Nay, good Sir Giles - I looked out from my window, and faw the good company all with their hats off, and arms spread, offering the door to each other. After many offers, they entered with much folemnity, in the order Mr. Thrifty was so kind as to name them to me. But they are now got to my chamber-door, and I faw my old friend Sir Harry enter. I met him with all the respect due to so reverend a vegetable; for you are to know, that is my sense of a person who remains idle in the same place for half a century. I got him with great fucceis into his chair by the fire, without throwing down any of my cups. The Knight-bachelor told

told me, he had a great respect for my whole family. and would, with my leave, place himself next to Sir Harry, at whose right hand he had fat at every quarter fessions these thirty years, unless he was fick. The fleward in the rear whispered the young Templar, That is true to my knowledge. I had the misfortune, as they Hood cheek by jole, to desire the Esquire to sit down before the Justice of the Quorum, to the no small satisfaction of the former, and refentment of the latter: But I faw my error too late, and got them as foon as I could into their feats. Well, faid I, Gentlemen, after I have told you how glad I am of this great honour, I am to defire you to drink a dish of tea. They answered one and all, that they never drank tea in a morning. Not in a morning! faid I, staring round me. Upon which the pert jackanapes, Nic Doubt, tipped me the wink, and put out his tongue at his grandfather. Here followed a profound filence, when the steward in his boots and whip proposed, That we should adjourn to some public house, where every body might call for what they pleased, and enter upon the business. We all stood up in an instant, and Sir Harry filed off from the left, very discreetly, countermarching behind the chairs towards the door: After him, Sir Giles in the same manner. The simple Esquire made a sudden start to follow; but the Justice of the Quorum whipped between upon the stand of the stairs. A maid, going up with coals, made us halt, and put us into fuch confusion that we stood all in a heap, without any visible possibility of recovering our order: For the young jackanapes seemed to make a jest of this matter, and had so contrived, by preffing amongst us, under pretence of making way, that his grandfather was got into the middle, and he knew no body was of Quality to stir a step, until Sir Harry moved first. We were fixed in this perplexity for fome time, until we heard a very loud noise in the street; and Sir Harry asking what it was, I, to make them move, faid, it was fire. Upon this, all ran down as fast as they could, without order or ceremony, until we got into the ffreet, where we drew up in very good order, and filed off down Sheer-lane; the impertinent Templar driving h 4

driving us before him, as in a string, and pointing to

his acquaintance who paffed by.

I must confess, I love to use people according to their own fense of good breeding, and therefore whipped in between the Justice and the Esquire. He could not properly take this ill; but I overheard him whisper the fleward, that he thought it hard, that a common conjurer should take place of him, though an elder Efquire. In this order we marched down Sheer-Lane, at the upper end of which I lodge. When we came to Temple-bar, Sir Hamy and Sir Giles got over; but a run of the coaches kept the rest of us on this side of the street: However, we all at last landed, and drew up in very good order before Ben Took's shop, who favoured our rallying with great humanity. From whence we proceeded again, until we came to Dick's Coffee house, where I defigned to carry them. Here we were at our old difficulty, and took up the street upon the same ceremony. We proceeded through the entry, and were so necessarily kept in order by the fituation, that we were now got into the Coffee-house itself, where, as soon as we arrived, we repeated our civilities to each other; after which, we marched up to the high table, which has an afcent to it inclosed in the middle of the room. The whole house was alarmed at this entry, made up of persons of so much state and rusticity. Sir Harry called for a mug of ale, and Dyer's Letter. The boy brought the ale in an instant; but faid, they d'd not take in the Letter. No! fays Sir Harry, then take back your mug; we are like indeed to have good liquor at this house. Here the Templar tipped me a fecond wink, and if I had not looked very grave upon him, I found he was disposed to be very familiar with me. In short, I observed after a long pause, that the Gentlemen did not care to enter upon bufiness until after their morning draught, for which reason I called for a bottle of mum; and finding that had no effect upon them, I ordered a fecond, and a third: After which Sir Harry reached over to me, and told me in a low voice, that the place was too public for business; but he would call upon me again to-morrow morning at my own lodgings, and bring some more friends with him.

Will's Coffee-house, October 26.

Though this place is frequented by a more mixed company than it used to be formerly; yet you meet very often some whom one cannot leave without being the better for their conversation. A Gentleman this evening, in a dictating manner, talked I thought very pleasingly in praise of Modesty, in the midst of ten or twelve libertines, upon whom it seemed to have had a good effect: He represented it as the certain indication of a great and noble spirit. Modesty, said he, is the virtue which makes men prefer the public to their private interest, the guide of every honest undertaking, and the great guardian of innocence. It makes men amiable to their friends, and respected by their very enemies. In all places, and on all occasions, it attracts benevolence,

and demands approbation.

One might give inflances, out of antiquity, of the irreliftible force of this quality in great minds; Cicercius, and Cheius Scifio, the ion of the great Africanus, were competitors for the office of Prætor. The croud followed Cicereius, and left Scipio unattended. Cicereius faw this with much concern; and deliring an audience of the people, he descended from the place where the candidates were to fit, in the eye of the multitude; pleaded for his adverfary; and with an ingenuous Modelty, which it is impossible to feign, represented to them, how much it was to their dishonour, that a virtuous son of Africanus should not be preferred to him, or any other man whatfoever. This immediately gained the election for Scipio; but all the compliments and congratulations upon it were made to Cicereius. It is easier in this case to fay, who had the office, than the honour. There is no occurrence in life, where this quality is not more ornamental than any other. After the battle of Pharjalia, Pompey marching towards Lariffus, the whole people of that place came out in procellion to do him honour. He thanked the magistrates for their respect to him; but defired them to perform these ceremonies to the Conqueror. This gallant submission to his fortune, and disdain of making any appearance but like Pompey, was owing. owing to his Modesty, which would not permit him to be so disingenuous, as to give himself the air of prospe-

rity, when he was in the contrary condition.

This I say of Modesty, as it is the virtue which preferves a decorum in the general course of our life; but considering it also as it regards our mere bodies, it is the certain character of a great mind. It is memorable of the mighty Casar, that when he was murdered in the Capitol, at the very moment in which he expired, he gathered his robe about him, that he might fall in a decent posture. In this manner, says my Author, he went off, not like a man that departed out of life, but a deity that returned to his abode.

N° 87. Saturday, October 29, 1709.

Will's Coffee-house, October 28.

THERE is nothing which I contemplate with greater pleasure than the dignity of human nature, which often shews affelf in all conditions of life: For notwithstanding the degeneracy and meanness that is crept into it, there are a thousand occasions in which at breaks through its original corruption, and shews what it once was, and what it will be hereafter. I confider the Soul of man, as the ruin of a giorious pile of building; where amidst great heaps of rubbish, you meet with noble fragments of sculpture, broken pillars and obelies, and a magnificence in confusion. Virtue and wisdom are continually employed in clearing the rains, removing these disorderly heaps, recovering the noble pieces that lie buried under them, and adjusting them as well as possible according to their ancient symmetry and beauty. A happy education, conversation with the finest spirits, looking abroad into the works of Nature, and observations upon mankind, are the great affulances to this necessary and glorious work. But even among those who have never had the happiness of any of these advantages, there are sometimes such exertions of the greatness that is natural to the mind of man, as fhew capacities and abilities, which only want these accidental helps to fetch them out, and shew them in a proper light. A plebeian Soul is still the ruin of this glorious edifice, though incumbered with all its rubbish. This reflection rose in me from a Letter which my fervant dropped as he was dreffing me, and which he told me was communicated to him, as he is an acquaintance of some of the persons mentioned in it. The Epistle is from one Serjeant Hall of the foot-guards. It is directed, "To Serjeant Cabe, in the Coldstream regiment of foot-" guards, at the Red lettice in the Butcher-row, near " Temple-bar."

I was so pleased with several touches in it, that I could not forbear shewing it to a cluster of Critics, who instead of confidering it in the light I have done, examined it by the rules of epistolary writing: For as these Gentlemen are feldom men of any great genius, they work altogether by mechanical rules, and are able to difcover no beauties that are not pointed out by Boulours and

Rapin: The Letter is as follows:

From the camp before Mons, S. 5t. 25. Comrade,

" T Received yours, and am glad yourfelf and your " I wife are in good health, with all the rest of my of friends. Our battalion suffered more than I could with in the action. But who can withfland fire? " Poor Richard Stevenson had his fate with a great many " more,: He was killed dead before we entered the " trenches. We had above two hundred of our batta-" lion killed and wounded: We lost ten ferjeants, fix " are as followeth: Jennings, Coffles, Roach, Sherring, " Man A, and my fon Smith. The rest are not your ac-" quaintance. I have received a very bad shot in my head myfelf, but am in hopes, and pleafe God, I " thall ecover. I continue in the field, and lie at my "Colonel's quarters. Arthur is very well; but I can give you no account of Elms; he was in the hospital " before I came into the field. I will not pretend to h 6

- " give you an account of the battle, knowing you have a better in the prints. Pray give my fervice to Mrs.
- " Cook and her daughter, to Mr. Stoffet and his wife, and to Mr. Lywer, and Thomas Hog sdon, and to Mr.
- " Ragdell, and to all my friends and acquaintance in general who do ask after me. My love to Mrs.
- " Stevenson. I am forry for the fending such ill news.
- "Her husband was gathering a little money together to fend to his wife, and put it into my hands. I have
- " feven shillings and three pence, which I shall take
- " care to fend her; wishing your wife a fase delivery,

" and both of you all happiness, rest

Your affured friend,

and comrade,

John Hall.

- " We had but an indifferent breakfast; but the Mounfeers never had such a dinner in their lives.
 - " My kind love to my comrade Hinton, and Mrs.
- " Morgan, and to John Brown and his wife. I nt two
- " shillings, and Stevenson fix-pence, to drink with you at Mr. Cook's; but I have heard nothing from him.
- 1 It was by Mr. Edgar.
- " Corporal Hartwell desires to be remembered to you,
- and defires you to enquire of Edgar, what is become of his wife Peg; and when you write, to fend word
- " in your Letter what trade she drives.
- "We have here very bad weather, which I doubt
- or will be an hinderance to the fiege; but I am in hopes
- " we shall be masters of the town in a little time, and
- " then I believe we shall go to garrison."

I saw the critics prepared to nibble at my Letter; therefore examined it myself, partly in their way, and partly my own. This is, said I, truly a Letter, and an honest representation of that chearful heart which accompanies the poor soldier in his warfare. Is not there in this all the topic of submitting to our destiny as well discussed, as if a greater man had been placed, like Brutus,

Brutus, in his tent at midnight, reflecting on all the occurrences of past life, and faying fine things on Being itself? What serjeant Hall knows of the matter is, that he wishes there had not been so many killed; and he had himself a very bad shot in his head, and should recover if it pleased God. But be that as it will, he takes care. like a man of honour, as he certainly is, to let the widow Stevenson know, that he had seven and three pence for her, and that if he lives, he is fure he shall go into garrison at last. I doubt not but all the good company at the Red-lettice drank his health with as much real efteem as we do of any of our friends. All that I am concerned for is, that Mrs. Peggy Hartwell may be offended at shewing this Letter, because her conduct in Mr. Hartwell's absence is a little enquired into. But I could not fink that circumstance, because you critics would have loft one of the parts which I doubt not but you have much to fay upon, Whether the familiar way is well hit in this style or not? As for myself, I take a very particular fatisfaction in feeing any Letter that is fit only for those to read who are concerned in it, but especially on such a fubject.

If we confider the heap of an army, utterly out of all prospect of rising and preferment, as they certainly are, and fuch great things executed by them, it is hard to account for the motive of their gallantry. But to me, who was a cadet at the battle of Coldfream in Scotland, when Monk charged at the head of the regiment, now called Goldfream from the victory of that day; I remember it as well as if it were yesterday, I stood on the left of old West, who I believe is now at Chelsea; I say, to me, who know very well this part of mankind, I take the gallantry of private foldiers to proceed from the fame, if not from a nobler impulse than that of Gentlemen and Officers. They have the fame tafte of being acceptable to their friends, and go through the difficulties of that profession by the same irresistible charm of fellowship, and the communication of joys and forrows, which quickens the relish of pleasure, and abates the anguish of pain. Add to this, that they have the same regard to fame, though they do not expect fo great a share as men above them hope for; but I will engage serjeant Hall

Hall would die ten thousand deaths, rather than a word should be spoken at the Red-lettice, or any part of the Butcher-row, in prejudice to his courage or honesty. If you will have my opinion then of the serjeant's Letter, I pronounce the style to be mixed, but truly epistolary; the sentiment relating to his own wound, is in the sub-lime; the posseript of Pegg Hartwell, in the gay; and the whole, the picture of the bravest fort of men, that is to say, a man of great courage and small hopes.

From my own Apartment, October 28.

When I came home this evening, I found, after many attempts to vary my thoughts, that my head still ran upon the subject of the discourse to-night at Will's. I fell therefore into the amusement of proportioning the glory of a battle among the whole army, and dividing it into shares, according to the method of the million lottery. In this Bank of fame, by an exact calculation, and the rules of political arithmetic, I have allotted ten hundred thousand shares; five hundred thousand of which is the due of the General, two hundred thousand I affign to the General officers, and two hundred thoufand more to all the commissioned officers, from Colonels to Enfigns; the remaining hundred thousand must be distributed among the non-commissioned officers, and private men: According to which computation, I find serjeant Hall is to have one share and a fraction of two When I was a boy at Oxford, there was among the antiquities near the Theatre a great stone, on which were engraven the names of all who fell in the battle of Marathon. The generous and knowing people of Aibens understood the force of the defire of Glory, and would not let the meanest soldier perish in oblivion. Were the natural impulse of the British nation animated with such monuments, what man would be fo mean, as not to mazard his life for his ten hundred thousandth part of the bonour in such a day as that of Blankeim or Blanegnies?

N° 88. Tuesday, November 1, 1709.

White's Chocolate house, October 31.

Have lately received a Letter from a friend in the I country, wherein he acquaints me, that two or three men of the town are got among them, and have brought down particular words and phrases, which were never before in those parts. He mentions in particular the words Gunner and Gunster, which my correspondent observes they make use of, when any thing has been related that is strange and surprizing; and therefore defires I would explain those terms, as I have many others, for the information of fuch as live at a distance from this town and court, which he calls the great mints of language. His Letter is dated from York; and, if he tells me truth, a word in its ordinary circulation does not reach that city within the space of five years after it is first stamped. I cannot say how long these words have been current in town, but I shall now take care to fend them down by the next post.

I must in the first place observe, that the words Gunner and Gunster are not to be used promiseuously; for a Gunner, properly speaking, is not a Gunster: Nor is a Gunster, wice werfa, a Gunner. They both indeed are derived from the word gun, and fo far they agree. But as the gun i remarkable for its destroying at a distance, or for their port it makes, which is apt to startle all its hearers, those who recount thrange accidents and circum-Hances, which have no manner of foundation in truth, when they defign to do mitchief, are comprehended under the appellation of Gunners; but when they endeavour only to surprize and entertain, they are distinguished by the name of Gunfters. Gunners therefore are the neit of fociety, but the Gunsters often the diversion. Gunner is deftructive and hated; the Gunfter innocent, and laughed at. The first is prejudicial to others, the

other only to himself.

This being premised, I must in the next place subdivide the Gunner into several branches: All, or the chief of which are, I think, as follows:

> First, The Bombardier. Secondly, The Miner. Thirdly, The Squib. Fourthly, The Serpent.

And First, Of the first. The Bombardier tosses his balls sometimes into the midst et a city, with a design to fill all around him with terror and combustion. He has been sometimes known to drop a bomb in a senate-house, and to scatter a pannic over a nation. But his chief aim is at several eminent stations, which he looks upon as the sairest marks, and uses all his skill to do execution upon those who possess them. Every man so situated, let his merit be never so great, is sure to undergo a bombardment. It is further observed, that the only way to be out of danger from the bursting of a bomb, is to lie prostrate on the ground; a posture too abject for generous spirits.

Secondly, The Miner.

As the bombardier levels his mischief at nations and cities, the Miner busies himself in ruining and overturning private houses and particular persons. He often acts as a spy, in discovering the secret avenues and unguarded accesses of families, where, after he has made his proper discoveries and dispositions, he sets sudden sire to his train, that blows up families, scatters friends, separates lovers, disperses kindred, and shakes a whole neighbourhood.

It is to be noted, that feveral females are great proficients in this way of engineering. The marks by which they are to be known are a wonderful folicitude for the reputation of their friends, and a more than ordinary concern for the good of their neighbours. There is also in them something so very like religion, as may deceive the vulgar; but if you look upon it more nearly. you see on it such a cast of censoriousness, as discovers it to be nothing but hypocrify. Cleomilla is a great instance of a female Miner: But as my design is to expose only the incorrigible, let her be silent for the suture, and I shall be so too.

Thirdly, The Squib.

The Squibs are those, who in the common phrase of the word are called libellers, lampooners, and pamphleteers. Their fire-works are made up in paper; and it is observed, that they mix abundance of charcoal in their powder, that they may be sure to blacken where they cannot siege. These are observed to give a consternation and disturbance only to weak minds; which, according to the proverb, are always "more afraid than hurt."

Fourthly, Serpents.

The Serpents are a pretty kind of Gunners, more pernicious than any of the rest. They make use of a fort of white powder, that goes off without any violent crack, but gives a gentle sound, much like that of a whisper; and is more destructive in all parts of life than any of the materials made use of by any of the fraternity.

Come we now to the Gunsters.

This race of engineers deals altogether in wind-guns, which, by recoiling, often knock down those who discharge them, without hurting any body else; and according to the various compressions of the air, make such strange squeaks, cracks, pops and bounces, as it is impossible to hear without laughing. It is observable however, that there is a disposition in a Gunster to become a Gunner; and though their proper instruments are only loaden with wind, they often, out of wantonness, fire a bomb, or spring a mine, out of their natural inclination to engineering; by which means they do mischief when they do not design it, and have their bones broken when they do not deserve it.

This fort of engineers are the most unaccountable race of men in the world: Some of them have received above an hundred wounds, and yet have not a scar in their

bodies;

bodies; some have debauched multitudes of women who have died maids. You may be with them from morning until night, and the next day they shall tell you a thousand adventures that happened when you were with them, which you know nothing of. They have a quality of having been present at every thing they hear related; and never heard a man commended, who was not their

intimate acquaintance, if not their kinfman.

I hope these notes may serve as a rough draught for a new establishment of engineers, which I shall hereaster fill up with proper persons; according to my own observations on their conduct, having already had one recommended to me for the General of my artillery. But that, and all the other posts, I intend to keep open, until I can inform my self of the candidates, having resolved in this case to depend no more upon their friends word, than I would upon their own.

From my own Apartment, Ocheber 31.

I was this morning awaked by a sudden shake of the. house; and as foon as I had got a little cut of my consternation, I felt another, which was followed by two or three repetitions of the fame convulsion. I got up as fast as possible, girt on my rapier, and snatched up my hat, when my landlady came up to me, and told me, that the Geatlewoman of the next house begged me to step thither, for that a lodger she had taken in was run mad; and the defired my advice, as indeed every body in the whole lane does upon important occasions. I am not, like some artists, saucv, because I can be beneficial, but went immediately. Our neighbour told us, she had the day before let her fecond floor to a very genteel youngish man, who told her, he kept extraordinary good hours, and was generally at home most part of the morning and evening at fludy; but that this morning he had for an hour together made this extravagant noise which we then heard. I went up stairs with my hand upon the hilt of my rapier, and approached this new lodger's door. I looked in at the key-hole, and there I faw a well-made man look with great attention on a book, and on a sudden jump into the air so high, that his head

head almost touched the cieling. He came down safe on his right foot, and again flew up alighting on his left : then looked again at his book, and holding out his right leg, put it into such a quivering motion, that I thought he would have shaked it off. He used the left after the fame manner, when on a fudden, to my great furprize, he stooped himself incredibly low, and turned gently on his toes. After this circular motion, hel continued bent in that humble posture for some time, looking on his book. After this, he recovered himself with a sudden fpring, and flew round the room in all the violence and disorder imaginable, until he made a full pause for want of breath. In this interim my women asked what I thought: I whispered, that I thought this learned perfon an Enthusiast, who possibly had his first education in the Peripatetic way, which was a feet of philosophers, who always studied when walking. But observing him much out of breath, I thought it the best time to master him if he were disordered, and knocked at his door. I was furprized to find him open it, and fay with great civility and good mien, that he hoped he had not disturbed I believed him in a lucid interval, and defired he would please to let me see his book. He did so, smiling. I could not make any thing of it, and therefore asked in what language it was writ. He faid, it was one he studied with great application; but it was his profession to teach it, and could not communicate his knowledge without a confideration. I answered, that I hoped he would hereafter keep his thoughts to himself, for his meditation this morning had cost me three cossee dishes. and a clean pipe. He feemed concerned at that, and told me he was a dancing master, and had been reading a dance or two before he went out, which had been written by one who taught at an academy in France. He observed me at a stand, and went on to inform me, that now articulate motions, as well as founds, were expressed by proper characters; and that there is nothing fo common, as to communicate a dance by a Letter. I befeeched him hereafter to meditate in a ground-room, for that otherwise it would be impossible for an artist of any other kind to live near him; and that I was fure feveral of

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of his thoughts this morning would have shaken my spectacles off my nose, had I been my leif at study.

I then took my leave of this Virtuoso, and returned to my chamber, meditating on the various occupations of rational creatures.

Nº 89. Thursday, November 3, 1709.

Rura mibi placeant, riguique in vallibus amnes, Flumina amem sylvasque inglorius— VIRG. Georg. 2. v. 485.

My next defire is, void of care and strife,
To lead a fost, secure, inglorious life:
A country cottage near a crystal slood,
A winding valley, and a losty wood.

DRYDEN.

Grecian Coffee-house, November 2.

Have received this short Epistle from an unknown hand.

Have no more to trouble you with, than to defire you would in your next help me to some answer to the inclosed concerning yourself. In the mean time I congratulate you upon the increase of your Fame, which you see has extended itself beyond the

" bills of mortality."

SIR,

THAT the country is barren of news, has been the excuse, time out of mind, for dropping a correspondence with our friends in London, as if it were impossible out of a cossee-house to write an agree-

" able Letter. I am too ingenuous to endeavour at the " covering of my negligence with fo common an excuse. "Doubtless, amongst friends bred, as we have been, to the knowledge of books as well as men, a Letter dated from a garden, a grotto, a fountain, a wood. " a meadow, or the banks of a river, may be more en-" tertaining than one from Tom's, Will's, White's, or " Saint James's. I promise therefore to be frequent for " the future in my rural dates to you: But for fear you " should, from what I have said, be induced to believe " I shun the commerce of men, I must inform you, that " there is a fresh topic of discourse lately arisen amongst the ingenious in our part of the world, and is become " the more fashionable for the Ladies giving into it. " This we owe to Isaac Bickerstaff, who is very much censured by some, and as much justified by others. " Some criticise his flyle, his humour, and his matter; " others admire the whole man. Some pretend, from the informations of their friends in town, to decypher " the Author; and others confess they are lost in their " guesses. For my part, I must own myself a professed " admirer of the Paper, and desire you to send me a " complete fet, together with your thoughts of the " Esquire and his Lucubrations."

There is no pleasure like that of receiving praise from the praise-worthy; and I own it a very folid happiness, that these my Lucubrations are approved by a person of fo fine a tafte as the author of this Letter, who is capable of enjoying the world in the simplicity of its natural This pafforal Letter, if I may fo call it, must be written by a man who carries his entertainment whereever he goes, and is undoubtedly one of those happy men who appear far otherwise to the vulgar. I dare say, he is not envied by the vicious, the vain, the frolic, and the loud; but is continually bleffed with that firong and ferious delight, which flows from a well-taught and liberal mind. With great respect to country sports, I may fay, this Gentleman could pass his time agreeably, if there were not a hare or a fox in his county. That calm and elegant fatisfaction which the vulgar call mehancholy, is the true and proper delight of men of knowledge and virtue. What we take for diversion, which is a kind of forgetting ourselves, is but a mean way of entertainment, in comparison of that which is considering, knowing, and enjoying ourselves. The pleasures of ordinary people are in their passions; but the seat of this delight is in the reason and understanding. Such a frame of mind raises that sweet enthusiasm which warms the imagination at the sight of every work of nature, and turns all round you into picture and landskip. I shall be ever proud of advices from this Gentleman; for I profess writing news from the learned as well as the busy world.

As for my labours, which he is pleased to enquire after, if they can but wear one impertinence out of human life, destroy a single vice, or give a morning's chearfulness to an honest mind; in short, if the world can be but one virtue the better, or in any degree less vicious, or receive from them the smallest addition to their innocent diversions, I shall not think my pains, or indeed my

life to have been fpent in vain.

Thus far as to my studies. It will be expected I should in the next place give some account of my life. I shall therefore, for the satisfaction of the present age, and the benefit of posterity, present the world with the

following abridgement of it.

It is remarkable, that I was bred by hand, and cat nothing but milk until I was a twelve-month old; from which time, to the eighth year of my age, I was obferved to delight in pudding and potatoes; and indeed I retain a benevolence for that fort of food to this day. I do not remember that I distinguished myself in any thing at those years, but my great skill at taw, for which I was fo barbaroufly used, that it has ever fince given me an aversion to gaming. In my twelfth year, I suffered very much for two or three false Concords. At fifteen I was fent to the University, and staid there for some time; but a drum passing by, being a lover of music, I enlisted myself for a soldier. As years came on, I began to examine things, and grew discontented at the times. This made me quit the fword, and take to the fludy of the Occult Sciences, in which I was fo wrapped up, that Oliver Cromwell had been buried, and taken up again, five years before I heard he was dead. This gave me first the reputation of a conjurer, which has been of great disadvantage to me ever fince, and kept me out of all public employments. The greater part of my later years has been divided between Dick's Coffeehouse, the Trumpet in Sheer-lane, and my own lodgings.

From my own Apartment, November 2.

The evil of unseasonable visits has been complained of to me with much vehemence by persons of both Sexes; and I am desired to consider this very important circumstance, that men may know how to regulate their conduct in an affair which concerns no less than life itself. For to a rational creature, it is almost the same cruelty to attack his life, by robbing him of so many moments of his time, or so many drops of his blood. The Author of the following Letter has a just delicacy in this point, and hath put it into a very good light.

Mr. BICKERSTAFF,

October 29.

"I A M very much afflicted with the gravel, which makes me fick and peevish. I desire to know of you, if it be reasonable that any of my acquaintance should take advantage over me at this time, and afflict me with long visits, because they are idle, and I am confined. Pray, Sir, resorm the town in this matter. Men never consider whether the fick person be disposed for company, but make their visits to humour themselves. You may talk upon this topic, so as to oblige all persons afflicted with chronical distempers, among which I reckon visits. Do not think me a four man, for I love conversation and my friends; but I think one's most intimate friend may be too samiliar, and that there are such things as unseasonable wit, and painful mirth."

It is with some so hard a thing to employ their time, that is a great good fortune when they have a friend indisposed, that they may be punctual in perplexing him, when he is recovered enough to be in that state which cannot cannot be called fickness or health; when he is too well to deny company, and too ill to receive them. It is no uncommon case, if a man is of any figure or power in the world, to be congratulated into a relapse.

Will's Coffee-house, November 2.

I was very well pleased this evening, to hear a Gentleman express a very becoming indignation against a practice, which I myfelf have been very much offended at. There is nothing, faid he, more ridiculous, than for an Actor to infert words of his own in the part he is to act, so that it is impossible to see the Poet for the Player: You will have Penkethman and Builock helping out Beaumont and Fletcher. It puts me in mind, continued he, of a collection of antique statues which I once Taw in a Gentleman's possession, who employed a neighbouring stone-cutter to add noses, ears, arms, or legs, to the maimed works of Phidias or Praxiteles. You may be fure this addition disfigured the statues much more than time had. I remember Venus, that, by the nose he had given her, looked like mother Shipton; and a Mercury, with a pair of legs that seemed very much swelled with the dropfy.

I thought the Gentleman's observations very proper, and he told me I had improved his thought, in mentioning on this occasion those wise commentators who had filled up the hemistichs of Virgil; particularly that notable poet, who, to make the Æneid more perfect, carried on the story to Lavinia's wedding. If the proper officer will not condescend to take notice of these absurdities, I shall myself, as a Censor of the people, animadvert upon such proceedings.

Nº 90. Saturday, November 5, 1709.

---- Amoto quæramus seria ludo.

Hor. Sat. 1. l. 1. ver. 27.

With graver air our ferious theme pursue,
And yet preserve our moral full in view. Francis.

Will's Coffee-house, November 4.

THE passion of Love happened to be the subject of discourse between two or three of us at the table of the Poets this evening; and among other observations, it was remarked, that the same sentiment on this passion had run through all languages and nations. Menmius, who has a very good taste, fell into a little fort of dissertation on this occasion. It is, said he, remarkable, that no passion has been treated, by all who have touched upon it, with the same bent of design but this. The Poets, the Moralists, the Painters, in all their descriptions, allegories, and pictures, have represented it as a soft torment, a bitter sweet, a pleasing pain, or an agreeable distres; and have only expressed the same thought in a different manner.

The joining of pleasure and pain together in such devices, seems to me the only pointed thought I ever read which is natural; and it must have proceeded from its being the universal sense and experience of mankind, that they have all spoken of it in the same manner. I have in my own reading remarked an hundred and three Epigrams, sifty Odes, and ninety-oue Sentences, tending to this sole purpose.

It is certain, there is no other passion which does produce such contrary effects in so great a degree: But this may be said for Love, that if you strike it out of the

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Soul, life would be infipid, and our Being but halfanimated. Human Nature would fink into deadness and lethargy, if not quickened with some active principle: and as for all others, whether ambition, envy, or avarice, which are apt to possess the mind in the absence of this passion, it must be allowed that they have greater pains, without the compensation of such exquisite pleafures as those we find in Love. The great skill is to heighten the satisfactions, and deaden the forrows of it: which has been the end of many of my labours, and shall continue to be so for the service of the world in general, and in particular of the Fair Sex, who are always the best or the worst part of it. It is pity that a passion. which has in it a capacity of making life happy, should not be cultivated to the utmost advantage. Reason, prudence, and good-nature, rightly applied, can thoroughly accomplish this great end, provided they have always a real and confiant Love to work upon. But this subject I shall treat more at large in the history of my married fifter, and in the mean time shall conclude my reflection on the pains and pleasures which attend this passion, with one of the finest Allegories which I think I have ever read. It is invented by the divine Plato, and to shew the opinion he himself had of it, ascribed by him to his admired Socrates, whom he represents as difcourfing with his friends, and giving the history of Love in the following manner.

At the birth of Beauty, favs he, there was a great feast made, and many guests invited. Among the rest, was the god Plenty, who was the fon of the goddess Prudence, and inherited many of his mother's virtues. After a full entertainment, he retired into the garden of Jupiter, which was hung with a great variety of ambrofial fruits, and feems to have been a very proper retreat for such a guest. In the mean time an unhappy female called Poverty, having heard of this great feath, repaired to it in hopes of finding relief. The first place she lights upon was Jupit r's garden, which generally stands open to people of all conditions. Poverty enters, and by chance finds the god Plenty afleep in it. She was immediately fired with his charms, laid herfelf down by his fide, and managed matters fo well, that she conceived a child

child by him. The world was very much in suspense upon the occasion, and could not imagine to themselves what would be the nature of an infant that was to have its original from two fuch parents. At the last, the child appears; and who should it be but Love. This infant grew up, and proved in all his behaviour, what he really was, a compound of opposite Beings. As he is the son of Plenty, who was the offspring of Prulence, he is fubtle, intriguing, full of stratagems, and devices; as the fon of Poverty, he is fawning, begging, ferenading. delighting to lie at a threshold, or beneath a window. By the father, he is audacious, full of hopes, confcious of merit, and therefore quick of refentment: By the mother, he is doubtful, timorous, mean spirited, fearful of offending, and abject in funmissions. In the same hour you may fee him transported with raptures, talking of immortal pleasures, and appearing satisfied as a God; and immediately after, as the mortal mother prevails in his composition, you behold him pining, languishing, despairing, dying.

I have been always wonderfully delighted with fables, allegories, and the like inventions, which the polirest and the best instructors of mankind have always made use of: They take off from the severity of instruction, and inforce it at the same time that they conceal it. The supposing, Love to be conceived immediately after the birth of Beauty; the parentage of Plenty; and the inconsistency of this pussion with its self so naturally derived to it, are great master-strokes in this sable; and if they sell into good hands, might furnish out a more pleasing

Canto than any in Spenfer.

From my own Apartment, November 4.

I came home this evening in a very pensive mood; and to divert me, took up a volume of Shakespear, where I chanced to cast my eye upon a part in the Tragedy of Richard the Third, which filled my mind with a very agreeable horror. It was the scene in which that bold, but wicked Prince is represented as sleeping in his tent, the night before the battle in which he fell. The Poet takes that occasion to set before him, in a vision, a ter-

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rible affembly of apparitions, the ghosts of all those innocent persons whom he is said to have murdered.
Prince Edward, Henry the Sixth, the Duke of Clarence,
Rivers, Gray, and Vaughan; Lord Hastings, the two
young Princes, sons to Edward the Fourth, his own
wise, and the Duke of Buckingham, rise up in their blood
before him, beginning their speeches with that dreadful
salutation, "Let me sit heavy on thy Soul to-morrow;"
and concluding with that dismal sentence, "Despair and
"die." This inspires the tyrant with a dream of his
past guilt, and of the approaching vengeance. He anticipates the satal day of Bosworth, sancies himself dismounted, weltering in his own blood; and in the agonies of despair, before he is thoroughly awake, starts up
with the following speech:

Give me another horse — Bind up my wounds! Have mercy Jesu—Soft, I did but dream. Oh coward conscience! how dost thou afflict me? The lights burn blue! Is it not dead midnight? Cold fearful drops stand on my trembling sless; What do I fear? my self! &c.

A scene, written with so great strength of imagination, indisposed me from further reading, and threw me into a de p contemplation. I began to reflect upon the different ends of good and bad Kings; and as this was the birth-day of our late renowned Monarch, I could not forbear thinking on the departure of that excellent Prince, whose 'ife was crowned with glory, and his death with pe ce. I let my mind go fo far into this thought, as to imagine to myfelf, what might have been the vision of his departing slumbers. He might have feen confederate Kings applauding him in different languages; flaves that had been bound in fetters, lifting up their hands and briffing him; and the perfecuted in their feveral forms of worthip imploring comfort on his last moments. The resection upon this excellent Prince's mortality had been a very melancholy entertainment to me, had I not been relieved by the confideration of the glerious reign which freceeds it.

We now see as great a virtue as ever was on the British throne, surrounded with all the beauty of success. Our nation may not only boast of a long series of great, regular, and well laid designs, but also of triumphs and victories; while we have the happiness to see our Sovereign exercise that true policy which tends to make a kingdom great and happy, and at the same time enjoy the good and glorious effect of it.

Nº 91. Tuesday, November 8, 1709.

From my own Apartment, November 7.

Was very much surprized this evening with a visit from one of the top Toasts of the town, who came privately in a chair, and bolted into my room, while I was reading a chapter of Agrippa upon the Occult Sciences; but as she entered with all the air and bloom that Nature ever bestowed on woman, I threw down the conjurer, and met the charmer. I had no fooner placed her at my right hand by the fire, but the opened to me the reason of her visit. "Mr. Bickerstoff, said the fine " creature, I have been your correspondent some time, " though I never faw you before; I have writ by the " name of Maria. You have told me, you were too " far gone in life to think of Love: Therefore I am " answered as to the passion I spoke of, and, continued " she smiling, I will not stay until you grow young again, " as you men never fail to do in your dotage; but am " come to confult you about disposing of myself to ano-" ther. My person you see; my fortune is very consi-" derable; but I am at present under much perplexity " how to act in a great conjuncture. I have two Lovers, " Crassus and Lorio: Crassus is prodigiously rich, but " has no one distinguishing quality; though at the same " time he is not remarkable on the defective fide. Lorio " has travelled, is well bred, pleasant in discourse, dis-

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" creet in his conduct, agreeable in his person; and with all this, he has a competency of fortune without

" fuperfluity. When I confider Lorio, my mind is filled with an idea of the great fatisfaction of a pleasant

" conversation. When I think of Crassus, my equipage, unmerous servants, gay liveries, and various dresses,

" are opposed to the charms of his rival. In a word, when I cast my eyes upon Lorio, I forget and despise

" fortune; when I behold Craffus, I think only of pleasing my vanity, and enjoying an uncontrolled ex-

" pence in all the pleasures of life, except Love." She

paused here.

Madam, faid I, I am confident you have not flated your case with fincerity, and that there is some secret pang which you have concealed from me: For I fee by your aspect the generosity of your mind; and that open ingenuous air lets me know, that you have too great a sense of the generous passion of Love, to prefer the oftentation of life in the arms of Crassus, to the entertainments and conveniencies of it in the company of your beloved Lorio; for so he is indeed, Madam; you speak his name with a different accent from the rest of your discourse: The idea his image raises in you, gives new life to your features, and new grace to your speech Nay, blush not, Madam, there is no dishonour in loving a man of merit; I assure you, I am grieved at this dallving with yourfelf, when you put another in competition with him, for no other reason but superior wealth. "To tell you then, faid she, the bottom of my heart, " there is Cloudda lies by, and plants herfelf in the way

"there is Closilda lies by, and plants herself in the way

of Crassis, and I am consident will snap him, if I

refuse him. I cannot bear to think that she will shine

" above me. When our coaches meet, to fee her cha" riot hung behind with four footmen, and mine with

but two: Hers, powdered, gay, and saucy, kept only for show; mine, a couple of careful rogues that are

good for fomething: I own, I cannot bear that Clotilda fould be in all the pride and wantonness of wealth,

" and I only in the eafe and affluence of it."

Here I interrupted: Well, Madam, now I fee your whole affliction; you could be happy, but that you fear another would be happier. Or rather, you could be folidly

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folidly happy, but that another is to be happy in appearance. This is an evil which you must get over, or never know happiness. We will put the case, Madam, that you married Crassus, and she Loria. She answered, Speak not of it. I could tear her eyes out at the mention of it. Well then, I pronounce Loria to be the man; but I must tell you, that what we call settling in the world is, in a kind, leaving it; and you must at once resolve to keep your thoughts of happiness within the reach of your fortune, and not measure it by comparison with others.

But indeed, Majam, when I behold that beauteous form of yours, and confider the generality of your Sex, as to their disposal of themselves in marriage, or their parents doing it for them without their own approbation, I cannot but look upon all such matches as the most impudent prostitutions. Do but observe, when you are at a Play, the familiar wenches that sit laughing among the men. These appear detellable to you in the boxes: Each of them would give up her person for a guinea; and some of you would take the worst there for life for twenty thousand. If so, how do you differ but in price? As so the circumstance of marriage, I take that to he hardly an alteration of the case; for wedlock is but a more solema prostituion, where there is not an union of minds. You would hardly believe it, but there have been designs even upon me.

even upon me.

A neighbour in this very lane, who knows I have, by leading a very wary life, laid up a little money, had a great mind to marry me to his daughter. I was frequently invited to their table: The girl was always very pleasant and agreeable. After dinner, Miss Molly won d be fure to fill my pipe for me, and put more fugar than ordinary into my coffee; for the was fure I was goodnatured. If I chanced to hem, the mother would appland my vigour; and has often faid on that occasion, I wonder, Mr. Bickerstaff, you do not marry, I am sure you would have children. Things went so far, that my mistress presented me with a wrought sight-cap and a laced band of her own working. I began to think of it in earnest; but one day, having an occasion to r de to Islangton, as two or three people were lifting me upon my pad, I spied her at a convenient distance laughing at

her Lover, with a parcel of romps of her acquaintance: One of them, who I suppose had the same design upon me, told me she said, Do you see how briskly my old Gentleman mounts? This made me cut off my amour, and to restect with myself, that no married life could be so unhappy, as where the wise proposes no other advantage from her husband, than that of making herself sine, and keeping her out of the dirt.

My fair client burst out a laughing at the account I gave her of my escape, and went away seemingly convinced of the reasonableness of my discourse to her.

As foon as she was gone, my maid brought up the following Epistle, which, by the style, and the description she gave of the person, I suppose was lest by Nick Doubt. Hark you, said he, girl, tell old Bosket-hilt I would have him answer it by the first opportunity. What he says is this:

ISAAC,

"Y OU feem a very honest fellow, therefore pray tell me, did not you write that Letter in praise of the Esquire and his Lucubrations yourself, &c."

The greatest plague of coxcombs is, that they often break upon you with an impertinent piece of good sense, as this jackanapes has hit me in a right place enough. I must confess, I am as likely to play such a trick as another; but that Letter he speaks of was really genuine. When I sirst set up, I thought it fair enough to let myself know from all parts, that my works were wonderfully enquired for, and were become the diversion, as well as instruction, of all the Choice Spirits in every county of Great-Britain. I do not doubt but the more intelligent of my readers found it, before this jackanapes, I can call him no better, took upon him to observe upon my style and my basket-hilt. A very pleasant Gentleman of my acquaintance told me one day a story of this kind of falshood and vanity in an Author.

Mevius shewed him a paper of verses, which he said he had received that morning by the penny-post from an unknown band. My friend admired them extremely. Sir, said he, this must come from a man that is eminent: You see sire, life, and spirit run through the whole, and at the same time a correctness, which shews he is used to writing: Pray, Sir, read them over again. He begins again, title and all; "To Mævius on his incomparable poems." The second reading was performed with much more vehemence and action than the former; after which my friend sell into downright raptures—Why, they are truly sublime! there is energy in this line! description in that! Why! it is the thing itself! this is perfect picture! Mævius could bear no more; but, saith, says he, Ned, to tell you the plain truth, I writ them

myfelf.

There goes just such another story of the same paternal tenderness in Bavius, an ingenious contemporary of mine, who had writ feveral Comedies, which were rejected by the players. This my friend Bawius took for envy, and therefore prevailed upon a Gentleman to go with him to the play-house, and gave him a new play of his, defiring he would personate the Author, and read it, to baffle the spite of the Actors. The friend confented, and to reading they went. They had not gone over three fimiles, before Refeius the player made the acting Author stop, and defired to know, what he meant by fuch a rapture? And how it came to pass, that in this condition of the Lover, instead of acting according to his circumstances, he spent his time in considering what his prefent state was like? That is very true, fays the mock Author; I believe we had as good strike these By your leave, fays Bavius, you shall not lines out. spoil your play, you are too modest; those very lines, for aught I know, are as good as any in your play, and they shall stand. Well, they go on, and the particle " and" stood unfortunately at the end of a ve. se, and was made to rhyme to the word, " fland." This Roseius excepted against. The new Poet gave up that too, and faid, he would not dispute for a monosyllable—For a monofyllable! fays the real Author, I can affure you, a monofyllable may be of as great force as a word of cen fyllables. I tell you, Sir, "and" is the connexion of the matter in that place; without that word, you may put all that follows into any other play as well as this. Befides, Li

Besides, if you leave it out, it will look as if you had put it in only for the sake of the rhyme. Roscius persisted, assuring the Gentleman, that it was impossible to speak it, but the "and" must be lost, so it might as well be blotted out. Bavius snatched his play out of their hands, said they were both blockheads, and went off; repeating a couplet, because he would not make his Exit irregularly. A witty man of these days compared this true and seigned Poet to the contending mothers before Solomen; the true one was easily discovered from the presender, by refusing to see his offspring dissected.

Nº 92. Thursday, November 10, 1709.

Falsus honor juvat, & mendax infamia terret Quem nisi mendosum & mendacem?

Hor. Ep. 16. l. 1. v. 39.

False praise can please, and calumny affright, None but the vicious and the hypocrite.

R. WYNNE.

White's Chocolate-house, November 9.

Know no manner of speaking so offensive as that of giving praise, and closing it with an exception; which proceeds (where men do not do it to introduce malice, and make calumny more effectual) from the common error of considering man as a perfect creature. But if we rightly examine things, we shall find that there is a fort of economy in Providence, that one shall excel where another is defective, in order to make men more niesult to each other, and mix them in society. This man having this talent, and that man another, is as necessary in conversation, as one professing one trade, and another another, is beneficial in commerce. The happiest climate does not produce all things; and it was so ordered,

ordered, that one part of the earth should want the product of another, for uniting mankind in a general correspondence and good understanding. It is therefore want of good fense as well as good nature, to fay, Simplicius has a better judgment, but not so much wit as Latius; for that these have not each other's capacities, is no more a diminution to either, than if you should fay, Simplicius is not Latius, or Latius not Simplicius. heathen world had so little notion that perfection was to be expected amongst men, that among them any one quality or endowment in an heroic degree made a God. Hercules had strength; but it was never objected to him that he wanted wit. Apollo prefided over wit, and it was never asked whether he had strength. We hear no exceptions against the beauty of Minerva, or the wisdom of Venus. These wise heathens were glad to immortalize any one ferviceable gift, and overlook all imperfections in the person who had it: But with us it is far otherwise. for we reject many eminent virtues, if they are accompanied with one apparent weakness. The reflecting after this manner, made me account for the strange delight men take in reading Lampoons and Scandal, with which the age abounds, and of which I receive frequent complaints. Upon mature confideration, I find it is principally for this reason, that the worst of mankind, the Libellers, receive fo much encouragement in the world. The low race of men take a fecret pleasure in finding an eminent character levelled to their condition by a report of its defects; and keep themselves in countenance, though they are excelled in a thousand virtues, if they believe they have in common with a great perfon any one The Libeller falls in with this humour, and gratifies this baseness of temper, which is naturally an enemy to extraordinary merit. It is from this, that Libel and Satire are promiscuously joined together in the notions of the vulgar, though the Satirist and Libeller differ as much as the magistrate, and the murderer. In the confideration of human life, the Satirist never falls u on persons who are not glaringly faulty, and the Libeller on none but who are conspicuously commendable. Were I to expose any vice in a good or great man, it should certainly be by correcting it in some one where that L 6 crime

crime with the most diftinguishing part of the character: as pages are chaftized for the admonition of princes. When it is performed otherwise, the vicious are kept in credit, by placing men of merit in the same accusation. But all the Pasquils, Lampoons, and Libels, we meet with now-a-days, are a fort of playing with the four and twenty letters, and throwing them into names and characters, without fense, truth, or wit. In this case, I am in great perplexity to know whom they mean, and should be in distress for those they abuse, if I did not see their judgment and ingenuity in those they commend. This is the true way of examining a Libel; and when men confider, that no one man living thinks the better of their heroes and patrons for the panegyric given them, rone can think themselves lessened by their invective. The hero or patron in a Libel, is but a scavenger to carry off the dirt, and by that very employment is the filthiest creature in the street. Dedications and Panegyrics are frequently ridiculous, let them be addressed where they will; but at the front, or in the body of a Libel, to commend a man, is faying to the persons applauded, "My Lord, or Sir, I have pulled down all " men that the rest of the world think great and ho-" nourable, and here is a clear stage; you may as you " please be valiant or wise; you may choose to be on " the military or civil lift; for there is no one brave " who commands, or just who has power: You may " rule the world now it is empty, which exploded you when it was full: I have knocked out the brains of " all whom mankind thought good for any thing; and "I doubt not, but you will reward that invention, which " found out the only expedient to make your Lordship,

" or your Worship, of any consideration."

Had I the honour to be in a Libel, and had escaped the approbation of the Author, I should look upon it exactly in this manner. But though it is a thing thus perfeetly indifferent, who is exalted or debased in such performances, yet it is not fo with relation to the Authors of them; therefore I shall, for the good of my country, hereafter take upon me to punish these wretches. What is really passed may die away according to its nature, and continue in its present oblivion; but for the future,

I shall take notice of such enemies to honour and virtue, and preserve them to immortal infamy: Their names shall give fresh offence many ages hence, and be detested a thousand years after the commission of their crime. It shall not avail, that these children of infamy publish their works under seigned names, or under none at all; for I am so persectly well acquainted with the styles of all my contemporaries, that I shall not sail of doing them justice, with their proper names, and at their sull length. Let these miscreants therefore enjoy their present act of oblivion, and take care how they offend hereafter.

But to avert our eyes from fuch objects, it is methinks but requifite, to fettle our opinion in the case of praise and blame: And I believe, the only true way to cure that fenfibility of reproach, which it a common weakness with the most virtuous men, is to fix their regard firmly upon only what is strictly true, in relation to their advantage, as well as diminution. For if I am pleafed with commendation which I do not deserve, I shall from the same temper be concerned at scandal I do not deferve. But he that can think of false applause with as much contempt as false detraction, will certainly be prepared for all adventures, and will become all occa-Underfer ed praise can please only those who want merit, and us deserved reproach shighten only these who want fincerit. I have thought of this with fo much attention, that I fancy there can be no other method in nature found for the cure of that delicacy which gives good men pain ar calumny, but placing fatiffaction no where but is a just sense of their own integrity, without regard to the opinion of others. If we have not such a foundation as this, there is no help against feandal, but being in observity, which to noble minds it not being at all. The truth of it is, this love of praise dwells most in great and heroic sprits; and those who best deserve it, have generally the most exquisite relish of it. Methinks I see the renowned Alexander, after a painful and Locious march, amidst the heats of a parched foil and a purning climate, fitting over the head of a fountain, and, after a draught of water, pronounce that memorable faying, Oh Athenians!

How much do I suffer, that you may speak well of me? The Athenians were at that time the Learned of the world, and their Libels against Alexander were written as he was a professed enemy of their State: But how monstrous would such invectives have appeared in Macedonians.

As love of reputation is a darling passion in great men, so the desence of them in this particular is the business of every man of honour and honesty. We should run on such an occasion, as if a public building was on fire, to their relief; and all who spread or publish such detestable pieces as traduce their merit, should be used like incendiaries. It is the common cause of our country to support the reputation of those who preserve it against invaders; and every man is attacked in the person of that neighbour who deserves well of him.

From my own Apartment, November 9.

The chat I had to-day at White's about fame and scandal, put me in mind of a person who has often writ to me unregarded, and has a very moderate ambition in this particular. His name it seems is Charles Lillie, and he recommends himself to my observation as one that sold snuff next door to the Fountain Tavern in the Strand, and was burnt out when he began to have a reputation in his way.

Mr. BICKERSTAFF,

- " I Suppose, through a hurry of business, you have either forgot me, or lost my last of this nature,
- "which was to beg the favour of being advantageously exposed in your Paper, chiefly for the reputation of
- " fnuff. Be pleased to pardon this trouble from, Sir,

Your very humble fervant,

C. L.

I am a perfumer, at the corner of Beauford-Buildings in the Strand.

This fame Charles leaves it to me to say what I will of him; and I am not a little pleased with the ingenuous manner of his address. Taking snuff is what I have declared against; but as his Holiness the Pope allows whoring for the taxes raised by the ladies of pleasure; so I, to repair the loss of an unhappy trader, indulge all persons in that custom who buy of Charles. There is something so particular in the request of the man, that I shall send for him before me, and I believe, I shall sind he has a genius for bawbles: If so, I shall, for aught I know, at his shop, give licensed canes to those who are really lame, and tubes to those who are unseignedly short sighted; and forbid all others to vend the same.

N° 93. Saturday, November 12, 1709.

Will's Coffee-house, November 11.

HE French humour of writing Epistles, and pub-lishing their fulsome compliments to each other, is a thing I frequently complain of in this place. It is, methinks, from the prevalence of this filly custom, that there is so little instruction in the conversation of our diftant friends: For which reason, during the whole course of my life, I have defired my acquaintance, when they write to me, rather to fay something which should make me wish myself with them, than make me compliments that they wished themselves with me. means, I have by me a collection of Letters from most parts of the world, which are as naturally of the growth of the place, as any herb, tree, or plant, of the foil. This I take to be the proper use of an epistolary commerce. To defire to know how Damon goes on with his courtship to Sylvia, or how the wine tastes at the Old Devil, are thread-bare subjects, and cold treats, which our absent friends might have given us without going out of town for them. A friend of mine who went

went to travel, used me far otherwise; for he gave me a prospect of the place, or an account of the people, from every country through which he passed. Among others which I was looking over this evening, I am not a little delighted with this which follows:

Dear Sir,

" I Believe this is the first Letter that was ever fent " I you from the middle region, where I am at this " present writing. Not to keep you in suspense, it " comes to you from the top of the highest mountain in " Switzerland, where I am now shivering among the " eternal frosts and snows. I can scarce forbear dating " it in December, though they call it the first of August " at the bottom of the mountain. I affure you, I can " hardly keep my ink from freezing in the middle of " the dog-days. I am here entertained with the prettieft " variety of fnow-prospects that you can imagine; and " have feveral pits of it before me, that are very near " as old as the mountain itself; for, in this country, it " is as lasting as marble. I am now upon a spot of it, " which they tell me fell about the reign of Charlemain, " or King Pepin. The inhabitants of the country are " as great curiofities as the country itself: They gene-" rally hire themselves out in their youth, and if they " are musket-proof until about fifty, they bring home " the money they have got, and the limbs they have left, " to pass the rest of their time among their native moun-" tains. One of the Gentlemen of the place, who is " come off with the loss of an eye only, told me by way " of boast, that there were now leven wooden legs in his " family; and that for these four generations, there had not been one in his line that carried a whole body with " him to the grave. I believe you will think the flyle of this Letter a little extraordinar : but the Rehearfal " will tell you, That people in clouds must not be con-" fined to speak sense; and I hope we that are above " them may claim the same privileg. Where-ever I . am, I shall always be, Sir,

Your most obedient, most hamble servant.

I think they ought, in those parts where the materials are so easy to work, and at the same time so durable, when any one of their Heroes comes home from the wars, to erect his statue in snow upon the mountains, there to

remain from generation to generation.

A Gentleman, who is apt to expatiate upon any hint, took this occasion to deliver his opinion upon our ordinary method of fending young Gentlemen to travel for their education. It is certain, said he, if Gentlemen travel at an age proper for them, during the course of their voyages their accounts to their friends, and after their return their discourses and conversations, will have in them fomething above what we can meet with, from those who have not had those advantages. At the same time it is to be observed, that every temper and genius is not qualified for this way of improvement. Men may change their climate, but they cannot their nature. man that goes out a fool, cannot ride or fail himself into common fense. Therefore let me but walk over London-Bridge with a young man, and I will tell you infallibly whether going over the Rialto at Venice will make him

It is not to be imagined how many I have faved in my time from banishment, by letting their parents know they were good for nothing. But this is to be done with much tenderness. There is my cousin Harry has a son, who is the dullest mortal that was ever born into our house; he had got his trunk and his books all packed up to be transported into foreign parts, for no reason but because the boy never talked; and his father said, he wanted to know the world. I could not fay to a fond parent that the boy was dull; but looked grave, and told him, the youth was very thoughtful, and I feared he might have some doubts about religion, with which it was not proper to go into Roman catholic countries. He is accordingly kept here until he declares himself upon some points, which I am sure he will never think of. By this means I have prevented the dishonour of having a fool of our house laughed at in all parts of Europe. He is now with his father upon his own estate, and he has fent to me to get him a wife, which I shall do with all convenient speed; but it shall be such a one, whose good-

good-nature shall hide his faults, and good sense supply them. The truth of it is, that race is of the true British kind: They are of our country only; it hurts them to transplant them, and they are destroyed if you pretend to improve them. Men of this folid make are not to be harried up and down the world, for, if I may fo speak, they are naturally at their wit's end; and it is an impertinent part to diffurb their repose, that they may give you only an history of their bodily occurrences, which is all they are capable of observing. Harry had an elder brother who who tried in this way; I remember all he could talk of at his return was, That he had like to have been drowned at such a place; he fell out of a chaise as another; he had a better flomach when he moved northward than when he turned his course to the parts in the fouth, and fo forth. It is therefore very much to be confidered, what fense a person has of things when he is fetting out; and if he then knows none of his friends and acquaintance but by their clothes and faces, it is my humble opinion, that he stay at home. His parents should take care to marry him, and see what they can get out of him that way; for there is a certain fort of men, who are no otherwise to be regarded but as they descend from men of consequence, and may beget valuable fuccessors. And if we consider that men are to be effeemed only as they are useful, while a flupid wretch is at the head of a great family, we may fay, the race is suspended, as properly as when it is all gone, we say, it is extinct.

From my own Apartment, November 11.

I had feveral hints and advertisements from unknown hands, that some, who are enemies to my labours, defign to demand the fashionable way of satisfaction for the disturbance my Lucubrations have given them. I confess, as things now stand, I do not know how to deny such inviters, and am preparing myself accordingly: I have bought pumps and siles, and am every morning practising in my chamber. My neighbour, the dancingmaster, has demanded of me, why I take this liberty, since I would not allow it him? but I answered his was

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an act of an indifferent nature, and mine of necessity. My late treatises against duels have so far disobliged the fraternity of the Noble Science of Desence, that I can get none of them to shew me so much as one Pass. I am therefore obliged to learn my book; and have accordingly several volumes, wherein all the postures are exactly delineated. I must confess, I am shy of letting people see me at this exercise, because of my stannel waistcoat, and my spectacles, which I am forced to fix on,

the better to observe the posture of the enemy.

I have upon my chamber walls drawn at full length the figures of all forts of men, from eight feet to three feet two inches. Within this height, I take it, that all the fighting men of Great-Britain are comprehended. But as I push, I make allowances for my being of a lank and spare body, and have chalked out in every figure my own dimensions; for I scorn to rob any man of his life by taking advantage of his breadth: Therefore I press purely in a line down from his nose, and take no more of him to affault than he has of me: For to fpeak impartially, if a lean fellow wounds a fat one in any part to the right or left, whether it be in Cart or in Terfe, beyond the dimensions of the said lean fellow's own breadth, I take it to be murder, and fuch a murder as is below a Gentleman to commit. As I am spare, I am also very tall, and behave myself with relation to that advantage with the same punctilio; and I am ready to floop or fland, according to the flature of my adverfary. I must confess I have had great success this morning, and have hit every figure round the room in a mortal part, without receiving the least hurt, except a little fcratch by falling on my face, in pushing at one at the lower end of my chamber; but I recovered fo quick, and jumped so nimbly into my guard, that if he had been alive, he could not have hurt me. It is confessed, I have writ against duels with some warmth; but in all my discourses I have not ever said, that I knew how a Gentleman could avoid a duel if he were provoked to it; and fince that custom is now become a law, I know nothing but the legislative power, with new animadversions upon it, can put us in a capacity of denying challenges, though we were afterwards hanged for it. But no more of of this at present. As things stand, I shall put up no more affronts; and I shall be so far from taking ill words, that I will not take ill looks. I therefore warn all hot young sellows not to look hereafter more terrible than their neighbours; for if they stare at me with their hats cocked higher than other people, I will not bear it. Nay, I give warning to all people in general to look kindly at me; for I will bear no frowns, even from Ladies; and if any woman pretends to look scornfully at me, I shall demand satisfaction of the next of kin, of the masculine gender.

Nº 94. Tuesday, November 15, 1709.

Si non erraffet, fecerat ille minus.

MART.

Had he not err'd, his glory had been less.

Will's Coffee-house, November 14.

The AT which we call gallantry to women, seems to be the heroic virtue of private persons; and there never breathed one man, who did not, in that part of his days wherein he was recommending himself to his mistress, do something beyond his ordinary course of life. As this has a very great effect even upon the most flow and common men; so, upon such as it finds qualified with virtue and merit, it shines out in proportionable degrees of excellence: It gives new grace to the most eminent accomplishments; and he, who of himself has either wit, wisdom, or valour, exerts each of these noble endowments when he becomes a Lover, with a certain beauty of action above what was ever observed in him before: And all who are without any one of these qualities, are to be looked upon as the rabble of mankind.

I was

I was talking after this manner in a corner of this place with an old acquaintance, who taking me by the hand, said, Mr. Bickerstaff, your discourse recalls to my mind a flory, which I have longed to tell you ever fince I read that article, wherein you defire your friends to give you accounts of obscure merit. The story I had of him is literally true, and well known to be fo in the country wherein the circumstances were transacted. He acquainted me with the names of the persons concerned. which I shall change into feigned ones; there being a respect due to their families that are still in being, as well as that the names themselves would not be so familiar to an English ear. The adventure really happened in Denmark; and if I can remember all the passages, I doubt not but it will be as moving to my readers as it was to me.

Clarinda and Chole, two very fine women, were bred up as filters in the family of Romeo, who was the father of Chlee, and the guardian of Clarinda. Philander, a young Gentleman of a good person, and charming conversation, being a friend of old Romeo's, frequented his house, and by that means was much in conversation with the young Ladies, though still in the presence of the father and the guardian. The Ladies both entertained a fecret passion for him, and could see well enough, notwithstanding the delight which he really took in Romeo's conversation, that there was something more in his heart which made him so assiduous a visitant. Each of them thought herfelf the happy woman; but the person beloved was Chloe. It happened that both of them were at a Play in a carnaval evening, when it is the fashion there, as well as in most countries of Europe, both for men and women to appear in masks and disguises. was on that memorable night in the year 1679, when the playhouse by some unhappy accident was fet on fire. Philander, in the first hurry of the disaster, immediately ran where his treasure was; burst open the door of the box, fnatched the Lady up in his arms; and with unspeakable resolution and good fortune carried her off safe. He was no fooner out of the crowd, but he fet her down; and grasping her in his arms, with all the raptures of a deserving Lover, How happy am I, says he, in an opportunity portunity to tell you I love you more than all things. and of shewing you the fincerity of my passion at the very first declaration of it. My dear, dear Philander, fays the Lady, pulling off her mask, this is not a time for art; you are much dearer to me than the life you have preserved; and the joy of my present deliverance does not transport me so much as the passion which occasioned it. Who can tell the grief, the astonishment, the terror, that appeared in the face of Philander, when he faw the person he spoke to was Clarinda After a fhort paufe, Madam, fays he, with the looks of a dead man, we are both mittaken; and immediately flew away, without hearing the distressed Clarinda, who had just strength enough to cry out, Cruel Philander! why did you not leave me in the theatre? Crowds of people immediately gathered about her, and, and after having brought her to herfelf, conveyed her to the house of the good old unhappy Romes. Philander was now preffing against a whole tide of people at the doors of the theatre. and flriving to enter with more earnestness, than any there endeavoured to get out. He did it at last, and with much difficulty forced his way to the box where his beloved Chlee flood, expecting her fate amidst this fcene of terror and distraction. She revived at the fight of Philander, who fell about her neck with a tenderness not to be expressed; and amidst a thousand sobs and fighs, told her his love, and his dreadful mistake. The stage was now in stames, and the whole house full. of fmoke: The entrance was quite barred up with heaps of people, who had fallen upon one another as they endeavoured to get out: Swords were drawn, shrieks heard on all sides; and in short, no possibility of an escape for Philander himself, had he been capable of making it without his Chloe. But his mind was above such a thought, and wholly employed in weeping, condoling, and comforting. He catches her in his The fire furrounds them, while-- I cannot go aims.

Were I an infidel, misfortunes like this would convince me, that there must be an Hereafter: For who can believe, that so much virtue could meet with so great distress without a following reward. As for my part, part, I am so old fashioned, as firmly to believe, that all who perish in such generous enterprizes, are relieved from the further exercise of life; and Providence, which sees their virtue consummate and manifest, takes them to an immediate reward, in a Being more suitable to the grandeur of their Spirits. What else can wipe away my tears, when we contemplate such undeserved, such irreparable distress? It was a sublime thought in some of the heathens of old:

Armorumque fuit vivis, quæ cura nitentes Pascere equos, eadem sequitur tellure repostos.

This is in other words, " The fame employments and

" inclinations, which were the entertainment of vir" tuous men upon earth, make up their happiness

" in Elvfram."

From my own Apartment, November 24.

When I came home this evening, I found a present from Mr. Charles Lillie, the perfumer, at the corner of Beauford-buildings, with a Letter of thanks for the mention I made of him. He tells me, feveral of my gentle readers have obliged me in buying at his shop upon my recommendation. I have enquired into the man's capacity, and find him an adept in his way. He has feveral helps to discourse besides snuff, which is the best Barcelona, and fells an orange-flower water, which feems to me to have in it the right spirit of brains; and I am informed, he extracts it according to the manner used in Grisham College. I recommend it to the handkerchiefs of all young pleaders: It cures or supplies all pauses and hesitations in speech, and creates a general afacrity of the spirit. When it is used as a gargle, it gives volubility to the tongue, and never fails of that necessary star towards pleasing others, making a man I have taken fecurity of him, pleased with ramself. that he shall stand the price of any of his commodities for these or any other occult qualities in them; but he is to fell then, at the same price which you give at the common perfumers. Mr. Lillie has brought further security, that he will not sell the boxes made for politicians to lovers; nor, on the contrary, those proper for lovers to men of speculation: "At this time, to avoid confusion, the best Orangerie for beaus, and right Musty for politicians."

"My Almanac is to be published on the twentyfecond, and from that instant all Lovers, in raptures
or epistles, are to forbear the comparison of their
mistresses eyes to stars. I having made use of that
fimile in my dedication for the last time it shall ever
pass, and on the properest occasion that it was ever
employed. All Ladies are hereby desired to take notice, that they never receive that simile in payment
for any similes they shall bestow for the suture."

"On Saturday night last a Gentlewoman's husband thrayed from the playhouse in the Hay-market: If the Lady, who was seen to take him up, will restore him, the shall be asked no questions; he being of no use but to the owner."

Nº 95. Thursday, November 17, 1709.

Interea dulces pendent circum oscula nati, Casta pudicitiam servat domus-VIRG. Georg. 2. ver. 523.

His cares are eas'd with intervals of blifs; His little children climbing for a kifs, Welcome their father's late return at night; His faithful bed is crown'd with chafte delight. DRYDEN_

From my own Apartment, November 16.

HERE are several persons who have many pleafures and entertainments in their possession, which they do not enjoy. It is therefore a kind and good office to acquaint them with their own happiness, and turn their attention to fuch inflances of their good fortune which they are apt to overlook. Persons in the married state often want such a monitor; and pine away their days, by looking upon the fame condition in anguish and murmur, which carries with it in the opinion of others a complication of all the pleasures of life, and a retreat from its inquietudes.

I am led into this thought by a vifit I made an old friend, who was formerly my school-fellow. He came to town last week with his family for the winter, and yellerday morning fent me word his wife expected me to dinner. I am as it were at home at that house, and every member of it knows me for their weil-wisher. I cannot indeed express the pleasure it is, to be met by the children with so much joy as I am when I go thither: The boys and girls strive who shall come first, when they think it is I that am knocking at the door; and that child which loses the race to me, runs back again to tell

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the father it is Mr. Bickerstaff. This day I was led in by a pretty girl that we all thought must have forgot me; for the family has been out of town thefe two years. Her knowing me again was a mighty subject with us. and took up our discourse at the first entrance. After which, they began to rally me upon a thousand little flories they heard in the country, about my marriage to one of my neighbour's daughters: Upon which the Gentleman, my friend, faid, "Nay, if Mr. Bickerstaff mar-" ries a child of any of his old companions, I hope " mine shall have the preference; there is Mrs. Mary is " now fixteen, and would make him as fine a widow as " the best of them: But I know him too well; he is so " enamoured with the very memory of those who flou-" rished in our youth, that he will not so much as look " upon the modern Beauties. I remember, old Gentle-" man, how often you went home in a day to refresh " your countenance and dress, when Teraminta reigned " in your heart. As we came up in the coach, I re-" peated to my wife fome of your verfes on her." With fuch reflections on little passages which happened long ago, we passed our time during a chearful and elegant meal. After dinner, his Lady left the room, as did also the children. As foon as we were alone, he took me by the hand; Well, my good friend, fays he, I am heartily glad to fee thee; I was afraid you would never have feen all the company that dined with you to-day again. Do not you think the good woman of the house a little altered fince you followed her from the playhouse, to find out who she was for me? I perceived a tear fall down his cheek as he spoke, which moved me not a little. But to turn the discourse, said I, she is not indeed quite that creature she was when she returned me the Letter I carried from you; and told me, she hoped, as I was a Gentleman, I would be employed no more to trouble her, who had never offended me; but would be fo much the Gentleman's friend as to diffuade him from a purfair which he could never succeed in. You may remember, I thought her in earnest; and you were forced to employ your coufin Will, who made his fifter get acquainted with her for you. You cannot expect her to be for ever fifteen. Fifteen! replied my good friend: Ah!

Ah! you little understand, you that have lived a bachelor, how great, how exquisite a pleasure there is in being really beloved! It is impossible that the most beauteous face in nature should raise in me such pleasing ideas, as when I look upon that excellent woman. That fading in her countenance is chiefly caused by her watching with me in my fever. This was followed by a fit of fickness, which had like to have carried her off last winter. I tell you fincerely, I have fo many obligations to her, that I cannot with any fort of moderation think of her present state of health. But as to what you fav of fifteen, the gives me every day pleasures beyond what I ever knew in the possession of her beauty, when I was in the vigour of youth. Every moment of her live brings me fresh instances of her complacency to my inclinations, and her prudence in regard to my fortune. Her face is to me much more beautiful than when I field law it; there is no decay in any feature, which I cannot trace from the very instant it was occasioned by some anxious concern for my welfare and interests. Thus at the far e time, methinks, the love I conceived towards her, for what she was, is heightened by my graticule for what the is. The love of a wife is as much above the idle passion commonly called by that name, as the loud laughter of buffoons is inferior to the elegant mith of Gentlemen. Oh! The is an inestimable jewel In her examination of her houshold affairs, the shews a certain fearfulness to find a fault, which makes her servants obey her like children; and the meanest we have has an ingenuous shame for an offence, not always to be feen in children in other families. I speak freely to you, my old friend; ever fince her fickness, things that gave me the quickest joy before, turn now to a certain and tay. As the children play in the next room, I know the poor things by their steps, and am confidering what they must do, should they lose their mother in their tender years. The pleasure I used to take in telling my boy flories of battles, and asking my girl questions about disposal of her baby, and the goffiping of it, is turned into inward reflection and melancholy.

He would have gone on in this tender ways when the good Lady entered, and with an inexpressible sweetners

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in her countenance told us, the had been fearching her closet for fomething very good, to treat such an old friend as I was. Her husband's eyes sparkled with pleafure at the chearfulness of her countenance; and I faw all his fears vanish in an instant. The Lady observing fomething in our looks which shewed we had been more ferious than ordinary, and feeing her husband receive her with great concern under a forced chearfulnefs, immediately guesfied at what we had been talking of; and applying herfelf to me, faid, with a finile, Mr. Bickerstaff, do not believe a word of what he tells you, I shall still live to have you for my fecond, as I have often promifed you, unless he takes more care of himself than he has done fince his coming to town. You must know, he tells me, that he finds London is a much more healthy place than the country; for he fees, feveral of his old acquaintance and school-fellows are here young fellows with fair full-bottomed periwigs. I could fcarce keep him this morning from going out open-breafted. friend, who is always extremely delighted with her agreeable humour, made her fit down with us. She did it with that easiness which is peculiar to women of sense; and to keep up the good humour she had brought in with her, turned her raillery upon me: Mr. Bickerstaff, son remember you followed me one night from the playhoute; suppose you should carry me thither to-morrow night, and lead me into the front-box. This put us and a long field of discourse about the Beauties, who were mothers to the prefent, and shined in the boxes twenty years ago. I told her, I was glad she had transferred fo many of her charms, and I did not question but her eldest daughter was within half a year of being

We were pleasing ourselves with this fantastical preferment of the young Lady, when on a sudden we were alarmed with the noise of a drum, and immediately entered my little godson to give me a point of war. His mother, between laughing and chiding, would have put him out of the room; but I would not part with him so. I sound upon conversation with him, though he was a little noisy in his mirth, that the child had excellent parts, and was a great master of all the learning on the other fide eight years old. I perceived him a very great historian in Æsop's Fables: But he frankly declared to me his mind, that he did not delight in that learning. because he did not believe they were true; for which reason I found he had very much turned his studies, for about a twelve-month past, into the lives and adventures of Don Bellianis of Greece, Guy of Warwick, the Sevent Champions, and other historians of that age. I could not but observe the satisfaction the father took in the forwardness of his fon; and that these diversions might turn to some profit, I found the boy had made remarks. which might be of fervice to him during the course of his whole life. He would tell you the milmanagements of John Hickathrift, find fault with the passionate temper in Bevis of Southampton, and loved Saint George for being the champion of England; and by this means had his thoughts infenfibly moulded into the notions of diferetion, virtue, and honour. I was extolling his accomplishments, when the mother told me, that the little girl. who led me in this morning, was in her way a better scholar than he : Betty, fays the, deals chiefly in Pairies and sprights; and sometimes in a winter-night will terrify the maids with her accounts, until they are afraid to go up to bed.

I sat with them until it was very late, sometimes in merry, sometimes in serious discourse, with this particular pleasure, which gives the only true relish to all conversation, a sense that every one of us liked each other. I went home, considering the different conditions of a married life and that of a bachelor; and I must consess it struck me with a secret concern, to reslect, that whenever I go off, I shall leave no traces behind me. In this pensive mood I returned to my family; that is to say, to my maid, my dog, and my cat, who only can be the

better or worse for what happens to me.



Nº 96. Saturday, November 19, 1709.

Is mibi demum vivere & frui anima videtur, qui aliquo negotio intentus, præclari facinoris aut artis bonæ famam quærit. Sal. Bel. Cat.

In my opinion, he only may be truly faid to live, and enjoy his Being, who is engaged in some laudable pursuit, and acquires a name by some illustrious action, or useful art.

From my own Apartment, November 17.

T has cost me very much care and thought to marshal and fix the people under their proper denominations, and to range them according to their respective charac-These my endeavours have been received with unexpected fuccess in one kind, but neglected in another: For though I have many readers, I have but few con-This must certainly proceed from a false opinion, that what I write is defigned rather to amufe and entertain, than convince and infruct. I entered upon my Essays with a declaration, that I should consider mankind in quite another manner, than they had hitherto been represented to the ordinary world; and afferted, that none but an useful life should be with me any life at all. But lest this doctrine should have made this small progress towards the conviction of mankind, because it may appear to the unlearned light and whimsical. I must take leave to unfold the wisdom and antiquity of my first prop sition in these my Essays, to wit, "That " every worthless man is a dead man." This notion is as old as Pribagaras, in whose school it was a point of discipline, that if among the 'Aresine' or Probationers, there were any who grew weary of fludying to be useful, and returned to an idle life, the rest were to regard them

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as dead; and upon their departing, to perform their obsequies, and raise them tombs, with inscriptions to warn others of the like mortality, and quicken them to resolutions of refining their Souls above that wretched state. It is upon a like supposition, that young Ladies, at this very time, in Roman catholic countries, are received into some nunneries with their coffins, and with the pomp of a formal funeral, to fignify, that henceforth they are to be of no further use, and consequently dead. Nor was Pythagoras himself the first author of this symbol, with whom, and with the Hebreaus, it was generally received. Much more might be offered in illustration of this doctrine from Sacred Authority, which I recommend to my reader's own reflection; who will eafily recollect, from places which I do not think fit to quote here, the forcible manner of applying the words, dead

and living, to men as they are good or bad.

I have therefore composed the following scheme of existence for the benefit both of the living and the dead; though chiefly for the latter, whom I must defire to read it with all possible attention. In the number of the dead I comprehend all persons, of what title or dignity foever, who bestow most of their time in eating and drinking, to support that imaginary existence of theirs, which they call life; or in dreffing and adorning those shadows and apparitions, which are looked upon by the vulgar as real men and women. In short, whoever refides in the world without having any business in it, and passes away an age without ever thinking on the errand for which he was fent hither, is to me a dead man to all intents and purposes; and I defire that he may be so reputed. The living are only those that are the way or other laudably employed in the improvement of their own minds, or for the advantage of others; and even amongst these, I shall only reckon into their lives that part of their time which has been spent in the manner above-mentioned. By these means, I am afraid, we shall find the longest lives not to confist of many months, and the greatest part of the earth to be quite unpeopled. According to this fustem we may observe, that some men are born at twenty years of age, some at thirty, some at threefcore, and some not above an hour before they die: M 4

Nay, we may observe multitudes that die without ever being born, as well as many dead persons that fill up the bulk of mankind, and make a better figure in the eyes of the ignorant, than those who are alive, and in their proper and full state of health. However, fince there may be many good subjects who pay their taxes, and live peaceably in their habitations, who are not yet born, or have departed this life feveral years fince, my defign is, to encourage both to join themselves as soon as possible to the number of the living: For as I invite the former to break forth into Being, and become good for fomething; fo I allow the latter a flate of refuscitation; which I chiefly mention for the fake of a person, who has lately published an advertisement, with several fcurrilous terms in it, that do by no means become a dead man to give: It is my departed friend John Partridge, who concludes the advertisement of his next year's Almanac with the following note.

"Whereas it has been industriously given out by Isaac Bickerstaff; Esquire, and others, to prevent the sale of

" this year's Almanac, that John Partridge is dead:

"This may inform all his loving countrymen, that he is fill living, in health, and they are knaves that re-

" ported it otherwife.

7. P.

From my own Apartment, November 13.

When an Engineer finds his guns have not had their intended effect, he changes his batteries. I am forced at prefent to take this method; and instead of continuing to write against the singularity some are guilty of in their habit and behaviour, I shall henceforward defire them to persevere in it; and not only so, but shall take it as a favour of all the Coxcombs in the town, if they will set marks upon themselves, and by some particular in their dress, shew to what class they belong. It would be very obliging in all such persons, who feel in themselves that they are not sound of understanding, to give the world notice of it, and spare mankind the pains of sinding them out. A cane upon the fifth button

shall from henceforth be the type of a Dapper; redheeled shoes, and an hat hung upon one side of the head, shall fignify a Smart; a good periwig made into a twift, with a brifk cock, shall speak a Mettled Feilow: and an upper lip covered with fnuff, denotes a Coffeehouse Statesman. But as it is required that all Coxcombs hang out their figns, it is on the other hand exrected, that men of real merit should avoid any thing particular in their dress, gait, or behaviour. For, as we old men delight in proverbs, I cannot forbear bringing out one on this occasion, "That good wine needs " no bush." I must not leave this subject without reflecting on feveral persons I have lately met with, who at a distance seem very terrible; but upon a stricter enquiry into their looks and features, appear as meek and harmless as any of my own neighbours. These are country Gentlemen, who of late years have taken up an humour of coming to town in red coats, whom an arch-Wag of my acquaintance used to describe very well, by calling them sheep in wolves cloathing. I have often wondered, that honest Gentlemen, who are good neighbours, and live quietly in their own possessions, should take it in their heads to frighten the town after this unreasonable manner. I shall think myself obliged, if they perfift in fo unnatural a drefs, notwithstanding any posts they may have in the militia, to give away their red coats to any of the foldiery who shall think fit to firip them, provided the faid foldiers can make it appear. that they belong to a regiment where there is a deficiency in the cloathing.

About two days ago I was walking in the Park, and accidentally met a rural Esquire, cloathed in all the types above mentioned, with a carriage and behaviour made entirely out of his own head. He was of a bulk and stature larger than ordinary, had a red coat, some open to shew a gay calamanco waistcoat: His periwig fell in a very considerable bush upon each shoulder: His arms naturally swang at an unreasonable distance from his sides; which, with the advantage of a cane that he brandished in a great variety of irregular motions, made it unsafe for any one to walk within several yards of him. In this manner he took up the whole Mall, his specta-

M 5

tors moving on each fide of it, whilst he cocked up his hat, and marched directly for Westminster. I cannot tell who this Gentleman is, but for my comfort, may say with the Lover in Terence, who lost fight of a fine young Lady: "Where-ever thou art, thou canst not be so long concealed."

St. James's Coffee-house, November 19.

By Letters from Paris, of the fixteenth, we are informed that the French King, the Princes of the blood, and the Elector of Eavaria, had lately killed fifty-five pheafants.

"Whereas feveral have industriously spread abroad, that I am in partnership with Charles Lillie, the Persumer, at the corner of Beauford-Buildings; I must say with my friend Partridge, that they are knaves who reported it. However, since the said Charles has promised that all his customers shall be mine, I must desire all mine to be his; and dare answer for him, that if you ask in my name for Snutt, Hungary or Orange water, you shall have the best the town as fords, at the cheapest rate."

N° 97. Tuesday, November 22, 1709.

Illud maxime rarum genus est corum, qui aut excellente ingenii magnitudine, aut præclara eruditione atque doctrina, aut atraque re ornati, spatium deliberandi habuerunt, quem potissimum vitæ cursum sequi vellent. Tull. Offic.

There are very few persons of extraordinary genius, or eminent for learning and other noble endowments, who have had sufficient time to consider what particular course of life they ought to pursue.

From my own Apartment, November 21.

HAVING sweptaway prodigious multitudes in my last Paper, and brought a great destruction upon my own species, I must endeavour in this to raise fresh recruits, and, if possible, to supply the places of the unborn and the deceased. It is said of Xerxes, that when he stood upon a hill, and faw the whole country round him covered with his army, he burst out into tears, to think that not one of that multitude would be alive an hundred years after. For my part, when I take a furvey of this populous city, I can scarce forbear weeping, to fee how few of its inhabitants are now living. It was with this thought that I drew up my last bill of mortality, and endeavoured to fet out in it the great number of persons who have perished by a distemper, commonly known by the name of Idleness, which has long raged in the world, and dellroys more in every great town than the plague has done at Dantzick. To repair the mifchief it has done, and flock the world with a better race of mortals, I have more hopes of bringing to life those that are young, than of reviving those that are old. For which reason, I shall here fee down that noble Allegory which was written by an old author called Prodicus, but M 6

recommended and embellished by Socrates. It is the description of Virtue and Pleasure, making their court to Hercules under the appearance of two beautiful Women.

When Hercules, fays the divine moralit, was in that part of his youth, in which it was natural for him to confider what course of life he ought to pursue, he one day retired into a defart, where the filence and folitude of the place very much favoured his meditations. As he was musing on his prefent condition, and very much perplexed in himself on the state of life he should chuse. he faw two women of a larger stature than ordinary approaching towards him. One of them had a very noble air, and graceful deportment; her beauty was natural and eafy, her person clean and unspotted, her eyes cast towards the ground with an agreeable referve, her motion and behaviour full of modefly, and her raiment as white as fnow. The other had a great deal of health and floridness in her countenance, which she had helped with an artificial white and red; and endeavoured to appear more graceful than ordinary in her mein, by a mixture of affectation in all her gestures. She had a wonderful confidence and affurance in her looks, and all the variety of colours in her drefs that she thought were the most proper to shew her complexion to an advantage. She cast her eyes upon herself, then turned them on those that were present, to see how they liked her, and often looked on the figure she made in her own shadow, Upon her nearer approach to Hercules, she stepped before the other Lady, who came forward with a regular composed carriage, and running up to him, accosted himafter the following manner.

My dear Hercules, says she, I find you are very much divided in your own thoughts upon the way of life that you ought to chuse: Be my friend, and sollow me; I will lead you into the possession of pleasure, and out of the reach of pain, and remove you from all the noise and disquietude of business. The affairs of either war or peace shall have no power to disturb you. Your whole employment shall be to make your life easy, and to entertain every sense with its proper gratifications. Sumptuous tables, beds of roses, clouds of perfumes, consorts of music, crouds of Beauties, are all in a readi-

ness to receive you. Come along with me into this region of delights, this world of pleasure, and bid fare-

wel for ever to care, to pain, to bufinefs .--

Hercules hearing the Lady talk after this manner, defired to know her name; to which she answered, my friends, and those who are well acquainted with me, call me Happiness; but my enemies, and those who would injure my reputation, have given me the name of Pleasure.

By this time the other Lady was come up, who addressed herself to the young hero in a very different

manner.

Herculer, says she, I offer myself to you, because I know you are descended from the Gods, and give proofs of that descent by your love to virtue, and application to the studies proper for your age. This makes me hope you will gain both for yourfelf and me an immortal reputation. But, before I invite you into my fociety and friendship, I will be open and fincere with you, and must lay down this as an established truth, That there is nothing truly valuable which can be purchased without pains and labour. The Gods have fet a price upon every real and noble pleafure. If you would gain the favour of the Deity, you must be at the pains of worshipping him; if the friendship of good men, you must fludy to oblige them; if you would be honoured by your country, you must take care to serve it. In short, if you would be eminent in war or peace, you must become malter of all the qualifications that can make you fo. These are the only terms and conditions upon which I can propose happiness. The Goddess of Pleasure here broke in upon her discourse : You see, said she, Hercules, by her own confession, the way to her pleasure is long and difficult, whereas that which I propose is short and eafv. Alas! faid the other Lady, whose vifage glowed with a passion, made up of scorn and pity, what are the pleafures you propose? To eat before you are hungry, drink before you are a thirst, sleep before you are tired, to gratify appetites before they are raised, and raise such appetites as Nature never planted. You never heard the most delicious music, which is the praise of one's felf; nor faw the most beautiful object, which is the

work of one's own hands. Your votaries pass away their youth in a dream of mistaken pleasures, while they are hoarding up anguish, torment, and remorse, for

old age.

As for me, I am the friend of Gods and of good men, an agreeable companion to the artizan, an houshold guardian to the fathers of families, a patron and protector of servants, an associate in all true and generous friendships. The banquets of my votaries are never costly, but always delicious; for none eat or drink at them who are not invited by hunger and thirst. Their slumbers are sound, and their wakings chearful. My young men have the pleasure of hearing themselves praised by those who are in years; and those who are in years, of being honoured by those who are young. In a word, my sollowers are savoured by the Gods, beloved by their acquaintance, esteemed by their country, and, after the close of their labours, honoured by posterity.

We know by the life of this memorable Hero, to which of these two Ladies he gave up his heart; and I believe, every one who reads this, will do him the justice

to approve his choice.

I very much admire the speeches of these Ladies, as containing in them the chief arguments for a life of virtue, or a life of pleasure, that could enter into the thoughts of an heathen; but am particularly pleased with the different figures he gives the two Goddesses. Our modern authors have represented Pleasure or Vice with an alluring face, but ending in snakes and monsters: Here she appears in all the charms of beauty, though they were all false and borrowed; and by that means composes a vision entirely natural and pleasing.

I have translated this Allegory for the benefit of the youth of Great-Britain; and particularly of those who are still in the deplorable state of non-existence, and whom I most earnestly entreat to come into the world. Let my embrio's shew the least inclination to any single virtue, and I shall allow it to be a struggling towards birth. I do not expect of them that, like the Hero in the foregoing story, they should go about as soon as they are born, with a club in their hands, and a lion's skin on their shoulders, to root out monsters, and destroy tyrants;

tyrants; but, as the finest Author of all antiquity has faid upon this very occasion, though a man has not the abilities to distinguish himself in the most shining parts of a great character, he has certainly the capacity of being just, faithful, modest, and temperate.

Nº 98. Thursday, November 24, 1709.

From my own Apartment, November 23.

Read the following Letter, which was left for me this evening, with very much concern for the Lady's condition who fent it, who expresses the state of her mind with great frankness, as all people ought who talk to their physicians.

Mr. BICKERSTAFF,

THOUGH you are stricken in years, and have had great experience in the world, I believe " you will fay, there are not frequently such difficult " occasions to act in with decency as those wherein I am entangled. I am a woman in love, and that you " will allow to be the most unhappy of all circumstances " in human life: Nature has formed us with a strong " reluctance against owning such a passion, and custom " has made it criminal in us to make advances. A " Gentleman, whom I will call Fabio, has the entire " possession of my heart. I am so intimately acquainted " with him, that he makes no scruple of communicating " to me an ardent affection he has for Cleora, a friend " of mine, who also makes me her confident. " part of my life I am in company with the one or the " other, and am always entertained with his passion, or " her triumph. Cleora is one of those Ladies, who " think they are virtuous, if they are not guilty; and " without any delicacy of choice, refolves to take the

best offer which shall be made to her. With this prospect she puts off declaring herself in favour of Fabio, until she sees what lovers will fall into her fnares, which she lays in all public places with all the art of gesture and glances. This resolution she has herself told me: Though I love him better than life, I would not gain him by betraying Cleara; or committing such a trespass against modesty, as letting him know myself that I love him. You are an astro-

" loger, What shall I do?

Diana Doubtful.

This Lady has faid very juffly, that the condition of a woman in love is of all others the most miserable. Poor Diana! how must she be racked with jealousy, when Fabio talks of Cleara? how with indignation, when Cleora makes a property of Fabio? A female lover is in the condition of a ghost, that wanders about its beloved treafure, without power to speak until it is spoken to. I defire Diana to continue in this circumstance; for I fee an eye of comfort in her case, and will take all proper measures to extricate her out of this unhappy game of crofs-purposes. Since Cleora is upon the catch with her charms, and has no particular regard for Fabio, I shall place a couple of special fellows in her way, who shall both address to her, and have each a better estate than Fabio. They are both already taken with her, and are preparing for being of her retinue the enfaing winter.

To women of this worldly turn, as I apprehend Cleara to be, we must recken backward in our computation of merit; and when a fair Lady thinks only of making her spouse a convenient domestic, the notion of worth and value is altered, and the lover is the more acceptable, the less he is considerable. The two I shall throw into the way of Cleara, are Orjan Focket and Mr. Walter Wildom. Orson is an huntiman, whose father's death, and some difficulties about legacies, brought out of the woods to town last November. He was at that time one of those country savages, who despise the softness they meet in town and court; and professedly show their strength and roughness in every motion and gesture, in scorn of our bowing and cringing. He was, at his fish

appear-

appearance, very remarkable for that piece of good breeding peculiar to natural Britans, to wit, defiance, and shewed every one he met he was as good a man as he. But in the midst of all this sierceness, he would sometimes attend the discourse of a man of sense, and look at the charms of a beauty with his eyes and mouth open. He was in this posture when, in the beginning of last December, he was shot by Cleara from a side-box—From that moment he softened into humanity, forgot his dogs and horses, and now moves and speaks with

civility and address.

Wat. Wisdom, by the death of an elder brother, came to a great cflate, when he had proceeded just far enough in his studies to be very impertinent, and at the years when the law gives him possession of his fortune, and his own constitution is too warm for the management of it. Orson is learning to sence and dance, to please and fight for his mistress; and Walter preparing sine horses, and a jingling chariot, to enchant her. All persons concerned will appear at the next Opera, where will begin the wild-goose chace? and I doubt, Fabio will see himself so over-looked for Orson or Walter, as to turn his eyes on the modest passion and becoming languor in the countenance of Diana; it being my design to supply with the art of love all those who preserve the sincere passion of it.

White's Chocolate-house, November 23.

An ingenious and worthy Gentleman, my ancient friend, fell into discourse with me this evening, upon the force and efficacy which the writings of good Poets have on the minds of their intelligent readers; and recommended to me his sense of the matter, thrown together in the following manner, which he desired me to communicate to the youth of Great-Britain in my Essays; which I choose to do in his own words.

I have always been of opinion, fays he, that virtue finks deepest into the heart of man, when it comes recommended by the powerful charms of poetry. The most active principle in our mind is the imagination: To it a good Poet makes his court perpetually, and by this

this faculty takes care to gain it first. Our passions and inclinations come over next; and our reason surrenders itself, with pleasure, in the end. Thus the whole Soul is insensibly betrayed into morality, by bribing the fancy with beautiful and agreeable images of those very things, that in the books of the philosophers appear austere, and have at the best but a kind of forbidden aspect. In a word, the Poets do, as it were, strew the rough paths of virtue so full of slowers, that we are not sensible of the uneasiness of them; and imagine ourselves in the midst of pleasures, and the most bewitching allurements, at the time we are making a progress in the severest duties of life.

All men agree, that licentious poems do, of all writings, foonest corrupt the heart: And why should we not be as univerfally perfuaded, that the grave and ferious performances of fuch as write in the most engaging manner, by a kind of divine impulse, must be the most effectual persuasives to goodness? If therefore I were bleffed with a fon, in order to the forming of his manners, which is making him truly my fon, I should be continually putting into his hand some fine Poet. The graceful fentences, and the manly fentiments, fo frequently to be met with in every great and fublime writer, are, in my judgment, the most ornamental and valuable furniture that can be for a young Gentleman's head; methinks they shew like so much rich embroidery upon the brain. Let me add to this, that humanity and tendernefs, without which there can be no true greatness in the mind, are inspired by the Muses in such pathetical language, that all we find in profe-authors towards the raising and improving of these passions, is, in comparison, but cold, or lukewarm at the best. There is besides a certain elevation of Soul, a fedate magnanimity, and a noble turn of virtue, that distinguishes the Hero from the plain, honest man, to which verse can only raise us. The bold metaphors, and founding numbers, peculiar to the Poets, rouze up all our fleeping faculties, and alarm the whole powers of the Soul, much like that excellent trumpeter mentioned by Virgil:

Ere ciere viros, Martenque accendere cantu.

VIRG. Æn. 6. v. 165.

With breathing brass to kindle fierce alarms.

DRYDEN.

I fell into this train of thinking this evening, upon reading a passage in a Mask writ by Milton, where two brothers are introduced seeking after their fister, whom they had lost in a dark night and thick wood. One of the brothers is apprehensive lest the wandering virgin should be over-powered with sears, through the darkness and loneness of the time and place. This gives the other occasion to make the following resections, which, as I read them, made me forget my age, and renewed in me the warm desires after virtues, so natural to uncorrupted youth.

I do not think my fifter fo to feek. Or fo unprincipled in virtue's book, And the sweet peace that goodness bosoms ever, As that the fingle want of light and noise (Not being in danger, as I trust she is not) Could flir the constant mood of her calm thoughts, And put them into misbecoming plight. Virtue could fee to do what virtue would By her own radiant light, though fun and moon Were in the flat fea funk. And Wisdom's self Oft feeks to fweet retired folitude: Where, with her best nurse, Contemplation, She plumes her feathers, and lets grow her wings, That in the various buffle of refort Were all too ruffled, and fometimes impair'd: He that has light within his own clear breaft, May fit i' th' center, and enjoy bright day: But he that hides a dark Soul and foul thoughts, Benighted walks under the mid-day fun; Himself is his own dungeon.

Nº 99. Saturday, November 26, 1709.

----Spirat Tragicum satis & feliciter audet. Hon. Ep. 1. l. 2. v. 166.

He, fortunately bold, breathes true Sublime.

Will's Coffee-house, November 21.

Have been this evening recollecting what passages, since I could first think, have left the strongest impressions upon my mind; and after strict enquiry, I am convinced, that the impulses I have received from theatrical representations, have had a greater effect, than otherwise would have been wrought in me by the little occurrences of my private life. My old friends, Hart and Moban, the one by his natural and proper force, the other by his great skill and art, never failed to fend me home full of such ideas as affected my behaviour, and made me insensibly more courteous and humane to my friends and acquaintance. It is not the business of a good Play to make every man an hero; but it certainly gives him a livelier sense of virtue and merit than he had when he entered the theatre.

This rational pleasure, as I always call it, has for many years been very little tasted: But I am glad to find that the true spirit of it is reviving again amongst us, by a due regard to what is presented, and by supporting only one playhouse. It has been within the observation of the youngest amongst us, that while there were two houses, they did not outvie each other by such representations as tended to the instruction and ornament of life, but by introducing mimical dances, and sulfome busseoneries. For when an excellent tragedy was to be acted in one house, the ladder-dancer carried the whole town to the other: And indeed such an evil as this must

be the natural consequence of two theatres, as certainly as that there are more who can see, than can think. Every one is sensible of the danger of the sellow on the ladder, and can see his activity in coming down safe; but very sew are judges of the distress of an Hero in a play, or of his manner of behaviour in those circumstances. Thus, to please the people, two houses must entertain them with what they can understand, and not with things which are designed to improve their understanding: And the readiest way to gain good audiences must be, to offer such things as are most relished by the croud; that is to say, immodest action, empty show, or impertinent activity. In short, two houses cannot hope to subsist, but by means which are contradictory to the very institution of a theatre in a well-governed kingdom.

I have ever had this fense of the thing, and for that reason have rejoiced that my ancient coeval friend of Drury-lane, though he had fold off most of his moveables, still kept possession of his palace; and trembled for him, when he had lately like to have been taken by a stratagem. There have, for many ages, been a certain learned fort of unlearned men in this nation called attornies, who have taken upon them to folve all difficulties by increasing them, and are called upon to the affiliance of all who are lazy, or weak of understanding. The infolence of a ruler of this palace made him refign the possession of it to the management of my abovementioned friend Divito. Divito was too modest to know when to refign it, until he had the opinion and sentence of the law for his removal. Both these in length of time were obtained against him; but as the great Archimedes desended Syracuse with so powerful engines, that if he threw a rope or piece of wood over the wall, the enemy fled; fo Divito had wounded all adverfaries with so much skill, that men feared even to be in the right against him. For this reason, the lawful ruler fets up an attorney, to expel an attorney, and chose a name dreadful to the stage, who only stemed able to beat Divito out of his intrenchments.

On the twenty-second instant, a night of public rejoicing, the enemies of Divito made a larges to the people of faggots, tubs, and other combustible matter,

which

which was erected into a bonfire before the palace. Plentiful cans were at the fame time distributed among the dependencies of that principality, and the artful rival of Divito, observing them prepared for enterprize, presented the lawful owner of the neighbouring edifice, and shewed his deputation under him. War immediately enfued upon the peaceful empire of Wit and the Muses: the Goths and Vandals facking Rome did not threaten a more barbarous devastation of arts and sciences. But when they had forced their entrance, the experienced Divito had detached all his subjects, and evacuated all his stores. The neighbouring inhabitants report, That the refuse of Divito's followers marched off the night before disguised in magnificence; door-keepers came out clad like Cardinals, and scene-drawers like heathen gods. Divito himself was wrapped up in one of his black clouds, and left to the enemy nothing but an empty stage, full of trap-doors, known only to himself and his adherents.

From my own Apartment, November 25.

I have already taken great pains to inspire notions of honour and virtue into the people of this kingdom, and used all gentle methods imaginable, to bring those who are dead in idleness, folly, and pleasure, into life, by applying themselves to learning, wisdom, and industry. But fince fair means are inessectual, I must proceed to extremities, and shall give my good friends, the company of upholders, sull power to bury all such Dead as they meet with, who are within my former descriptions of deceased persons. In the mean time the following remonstrance of that corporation I take to be very just.

From our office near the Hay-market, Nov. 23.

Worthy SIR,

PON reading your Tatler on Saturday last, by which we received the agreeable news of so many deaths, we immediately ordered in a considerable quantity of blacks; and our servants have wrought

" wrought night and day ever fince, to furnish out the " necessaries for these deceased. But so it is, Sir, that of this vast number of dead bodies, that go putrify-" ing up and down the streets, not one of them has " come to us to be buried. Though we should be loth to be any hinderance to our good friends the physi-" cians, vet we cannot but take notice what infection " her Majesty's subjects are liable to from the horrible " flench of so many corpses. Sir, we will not detain " you; our case in short is this: Here we are embarked " in this undertaking for the public good: Now if " people should be suffered to go on unburied at this " rate, there is an end of the usefullest manufactures " and handicrafts of the kingdom: For where will be "your fextons, coffin-makers, and plummers? what will become of your embalmers, epitaph-mongers, and chief mourners? We are loth to drive this mat-" ter any further, though we tremble at the confequences " of it: For if it shall be left to every dead man's dif-" cretion not to be buried until he sees his time, no " man can fay where that will end; but thus much we " will take upon us to affirm, that fuch a toleration " will be intolerable.

"What would make us easy in this matter is no " more, but that your Worship would be pleased to " issue out your orders to ditto Dead to repair forthwith " to our office, in order to their interment; where con-" flant attendance shall be given to treat with all per-" fons according to their quality, and the poor to " be buried for nothing: And for the convenience of " fuch persons as are willing enough to be dead, but " that they are afraid their friends and relations " should know it, we have a back-door into Warwick-" fireet, from whence they may be interred with all " fecrecy imaginable, and without lofs of time, or " hinderance of business. But in case of obstinacy, " for we would gladly make a thorough riddance, we " defire a further power from your Worship, to take " up fuch deceased as shall not have complied with " your first orders, wherever we meet them : And if " after that there shall be complaints of any per-

The Master and Company of Upholders.

"P. S. We are ready to give in our printed propofals at large; and if your Worship approves of our undertaking, we defire the following advertisement may be inserted in your next Paper.

"Whereas a commission of interment has been awarded against Doctor John Partridge, Philomath,

professor of Physic and Astrology; and whereas the faid Partridge hath not surrendered himself, nor shown cause to the contrary; These are to certify,

"that the company of Upholders will proceed to bury him from Cordavainers-hall, on Tuesday the twenty-

"ninth inflant, where any fix of his furviving friends,

"who still believe him to be alive, are defired to come prepared to hold up the pall.

" Note; we shall light away at fix in the evening,

" there being to be a fermon."

Nº 100. Tuesday, November 29, 1709.

Jam redit & Virgo, redeunt Saturnia regna. VIRG. Ec. 4. ver. 6.

Returning Justice brings a golden age. R. W.

Sheer-lane, November 28.

Was last week taking a solitary walk in the garden of Lincoln's-Inn, (a sayour that is indulged me by several of the Benchers, who are my intimate friends, and grown old with me in this neighbourhood) when, according

Nº 100.

according to the nature of men in years, who have made but little progress in the advancement of their fortune or their fame, I was repining at the sudden rise of many persons who are my juniors, and indeed at the unequal distribution of wealth, honour, and all other bleffings of life. I was loft in this thought, when the night came upon me and drew my mind into a far more agreeable contemplation. The heaven above me appeared in all its glories, and presented me with such an hemisphere of stars, as made the most agreeable prospect imaginable to one who delights in the study of Nature. It happened to be a freezing night, which had purified the whole body of air into fuch a bright transparent æther, as made every constellation visible; and at the same time gave fuch a particular glowing to the stars, that I thought it the richest sky I had ever seen. I could not behold a fcene fo wonderfully adorned and lighted up, if I may be allowed that expression, without suitable meditations on the Author of fuch illustrious and amazing objects: For on these occasions, philosophy suggests motives to religion, and religion adds pleasures to philosophy.

As foon as I had recovered my usual temper and screnity of Soul, I retired to my lodgings, with the satisfaction of having passed away a few hours in the proper employments of a reasonable creature; and promising myself that my slumbers would be sweet, I no sooner fell into them, but I dreamed a dream, or saw a vision, for I know not which to call it, that seemed to rise out of my evening-meditation, and had something in it so solemn and serious, that I cannot forbear communicating it; though I must confess the wildness of imagination, which in a dream is always loose and irregular, discovers itself

too much in feveral parts of it.

Methought I saw the same azure sky diversified with the same glorious luminaries which had entertained me a little before I sell asseep. I was looking very attentively on that Sign in the heavens which is called by the name of the Balance, when on a sudden there appeared in it an extraordinary light, as if the sun should rise at

[•] Libra or the Balance is next to the fign Virgo, into which Aftraa, the goddefs of Justice, was translated, when she could no lorger stay on earth.

midnight. By its increasing in breadth and lustre, I soon sound that it approached towards the earth; and at length could discern something like a shadow hovering in the midst of a great glory, which in a little time after I distinctly perceived to be the figure of a woman. I tancied at first it might have been the angel, or Intelligence that guided the constellation from which it descended; but upon a nearer view, I saw about her all the emblems with which the goddess of Justice is usually described. Her countenance was unspeakably awful and majestic, but exquisitely beautiful to those whose eyes were strong enough to behold it; her smiles transported with rapture, her from sterrified to despair. She held in her hand a mirror, endowed with the same qualities as that which the painters put into the hand of Truth.

There flreamed from it a light, which diffinguished itself from all the splendors that surrounded her, more than a flash of lightning shines in the midst of day-light. As she moved it in her hand it brightened the heavens, the air, or the earth. When she had descended so low as to be seen and heard by mortals, to make the pomp of her appearance more supportable, she threw darkness and clouds about her, that tempered the light into a thousand beautiful shades and colours, and multiplied that lustre, which was before too strong and dazzling,

into a variety of milder glories.

In the mean time, the world was in an alarm, and all the inhabitants of it gathered together upon a spacious plain; fo that it feemed to have the whole species before my eyes. A voice was heard from the clouds, declaring the intention of this vifit, which was to reftore and appropriate to every one living what was his due. The fear and hope, joy and forrow, which appeared in that great affembly, after this folemn declaration, are not to be expressed. The first edict was then pronounced, "That " all titles and claims to riches and estates, or to any " part of them, should be immediately vested in the rightful owner." Upon this, the inhabitants of the earth held up the instruments of their tenure, whether in parchment, paper, wax, or any other form of conveyance; and as the goddess moved the mirror of Truth which she held in her hand, so that the light which flowed

flowed from it fell upon the multitude, they examined the feveral instruments by the beams of it. The rays of this mirror had a particular quality of fetting fire to all forgery and falshood. The blaze of papers, the melting of feals, and crackling of parchments, made a very odd The fire very often ran through two or three lines only, and then stopped. Though I could not but observe, that the flame chiefly broke out among the interlineations and codicils; the light of the mirror, as it was turned up and down, pierced into all the dark corners and receives of the universe, and by that means detested ma writings and records which had been hidden or buried by time, chance, or design. This occasioned a wonderful revolution among the people. At the fame time, the spoils of extortion, fraud, and robbery, with all the fruits of bribery and corruption, were thrown together into a prodigious pile, that almost reached to the clouds, and was called, " The mount of restitution;" to which all injured persons were invited, to receive what belonged to them.

One might fee crouds of people in tattered garments come up, and change clothes with others that were dreffed with lace and embroidery. Several who were Plumbs, or very near it, became men of moderate fortunes; and many others, who were overgrown in wealth and possessions, had no more left than what they usually spent. What moved my concern most was, to see a certain treet of the greatest credit in Europe from one end

to the other become bankrupt.

The next command was, for the whole body of mankind to separate themselves into their proper families; which was no sooner done, but an edict was issued out, requiring all children "to repair to their true and na-"tural fathers." This put a great part of the assembly in motion; for as the mirror was moved over them, it inspired every one with such a natural instinct, as directed them to their real parents. It was a very melantholy spectacle to see the fathers of very large families become childless, and bachelors undone by a charge of sons and daughters. You might see a presumptive her of a great estate ask blessing of his coachman, and a coalebrated Toass paying her doty to a Valet de Chambre.

Many, under vows of celibacy, appeared furrounded with a numerous issue. This change of parentage would have caused great lamentation, but that the calamity was pretty common; and that generally those who lost their children, had the fatisfaction of feeing them put into the hands of their dearest friends. Men were no sooner fettled in their right to their possessions and their progeny, but there was a third order proclaimed, "That " all the posts of dignity and honour in the universe " should be conferred on persons of the greatest merit, " abilities, and perfection." The handsome, the strong, and the wealthy, immediately pressed forward; but not boing able to bear the splendor of the mirror, which played upon their faces, they immediately fell back among the croud: But as the goddess tried the multitude by her glafs, as the eagle does its young ones by the lustre of the fun, it was remarkable, that every one turned away his face from it who had not distinguished himself either by virtue, knowledge, or capacity in businefs, either military or civil. This select assembly was drawn up in the center of a prodigious multitude, which was diffused on all fides, and flood observing them, as idle people used to gather about a regiment that were exercining their arms. They were drawn up in three bodies: In the first were the men of virtue; in the second, men of knowledge; and in the third, the men of business. It is impossible to look at the first column without a fecret veneration, their aspects were so sweetened with humanity, raised with contemplation, emboldened with resolution, and adorned with the most agreeable airs, which are those that proceed from secret habits of virtue. I could not but take notice, that there were many faces among them which were unknown, not only to the multitude, but even to feveral of their own body.

In the fecond column, confifting of the men of know-ledge, there had been great disputes before they fell into the ranks, which they did not do at last, without the positive command of the goddess who presided over the assembly. She had so ordered it, that men of the greatest genius and strongest sense were placed at the head of the column: Behind these, were such as had sormed their

mind very much on the thoughts and writings of others. In the rear of the column were men who had more wit than fense, or more learning than understanding. All living Authors of any value were ranged in one of these classes; but I must confess, I was very much surprized to see a great body of editors, cricics, commentators, and grammarians, meet with so very ill a reception. They had formed themselves into a body, and with a great deal of arrogance demanded the first station in the column of knowledge; but the goddess, instead of complying with their request, clapped them all into liveries, and bid them know themselves for no other but the

lacquies of the Learned.

The third column were man of business, and confishing of persons in military and civil capacities. The former marched out from the rest, and placed themselves in the front; at which the other shook their heads at them, but did not think fit to dispute the post with them. could not but make feveral observations upon this last column of people; but I have certain private reasons why I do not think fit to communicate them to the public. In order to fill up all the potts of honour, dignity. and profit, there was a draught made out of each column of men, who were masters of all three qualifications in some degree, and were preferred to stations of the first The fecond draught was made out of fuch as were possessed of any two of the qualifications, who were disposed of in stations of a second dignity. Those who were left, and were endowed only with one of them, had their fuitable posts. When this was over, there remained many places of trust and profit unfilled, for which there were fresh draughts made out of the furrounding multitude, who had any appearance of these excellencies, or were recommended by those who possessed them in reality.

All were surprized to see so many new faces in the most emistent dignities; and for my own part, I was very well pleased to see that all my friends either kept their

present posts, or were advanced to higher.

Having filled my Paper with those particulars of my vision which concern the male part of mankind, I must reserve for another occasion the sequel of it, which relates to the fair Sex.

Nº 101. Thursday, December 1, 1709.

--- Postquam fregit subsellia versu, Jurit intactam Paridi nifi vendit Agaven.

Juv. Sat. 7. v. 87.

But while the common suffrage crown'd his cause, And broke the benches with their loud applause; tlis Muse had starv'd, had not a piece unread, And by a player bought, supply'd her bread. DRYDEN.

From my own Apartment, November 30.

THE progress of my intended account of what happened when Justice visited mortals, is at prefent interrupted by the observation and sense of an inrullice against which there is no remedy, even in a kingslow more happy in the care taken of the liberty and property of the fubject, than any other nation upon earth. This inequity is committed by a most impregnable fet of mortals, men who are rogues within the law; and in the very commission of what they are guilty of, profesiedly own, that they forbear no injury but from the terror of being punished for it. These miscreants are a fet of wretches we Authors call Pirates, who print any book, poem, or fermon, as foon as it appears in the world, in a smaller volume; and fell it, as all other thieves do fiolen goods, at a cheaper rate. I has in my rage calling them rafcals, plunderers abbers, highwaymen. But they acknowledge all hat, and are pleafed ies; nay, will print with thefe, as well as any oth them themselves to turn the

I am extremely at a le to act against such open enemies, who have remaind enough to be touched with our repreaches, and are as well defended against what we can fay. as what we can do. Railing therefore we must turn into complaint, which I cannot forbear making, when I consider that all the labours of my long life may be disappointed by the first man that pleases to roome. I had stated myself, that my stock of learning was worth a hundred and fifty pounds for annual, which would very handsomely maintain me and my little family, who are so happy, or so wise, as to want only necessaries. Before men had come up to this bare faced impudence, it was an estate to have a competency of understanding.

An ingenious drole, who is fince dead, (and indeed it is well for him he is so, for he must have starved hat he lived to this day) used to give me an account of his good hulbandry in the management of his learning. was a general dealer, and had his amusements as well comical as ferious. The merry rogue faid, when we wanted a dinner, he writ a paragraph of Table Talk. and his bookfeller upon fight paid the reckoning. He was a very good judge of what would please the people, and could aptly hit both the genius of his readers, and the feafon of the year, in his writings. His brain, which was his estate, had as regular and different produc: as other mens land. From the beginning of Nawember, until the opening of the campaign, he writ pamphlets and letters to members of parliament, or friends in the country. But sometimes he would relieve his ordinary readers with a murder, and lived comfortably a week or two upon "frange and lamentable ac-" cidents." A little before the armies took the hele, his way was to open your attention with a prodigy; and a monster, well writ, was two guineas the lowest price. This prepared his readers for "his great and bloody " news" from Flanders in Jane and July. Poor You! he is gone-But I observed, he always looked well after a battle, and was apparently fatter in a fighting year. Had this honest careless fellow lived until now, famine had stared him in the face, and interrested his merriment; as it mut be a folid affliction to all these whole pen is their portion.

As for my part, I do not speak wholly for my own take in this point; for palmistry and advology will bring me in greater gains than these my Papers; so that I am

only in the condition of a lawyer, who leaves the bar for chamber-practice. However, I may be allowed to speak in the cause of learning itself, and lament, that a liberal education is the only one which a polite nation makes unprofitable. All mechanical artizans are allowed to reap the fruit of their invention and ingenuity, without invalion; but he that has separated himself from the reft of mankind, and studied the wonders of the creation. the government of his passions, and the revolutions of the world, and has an ambition to communicate the effect of half his life spent in such noble enquiries, has no property in what he is willing to produce, but is exposed to rebbery and want, with this melancholy and just reflection, that he is the only man who is not protected by his country, at the same time that he best deferves it. According to the ordinary rules of computation, the greater the adventure is, the greater ought to be the profit of those who succeed in it; and by this meafure, none have pretence of turning their labours to greater advantage than perfons brought up to letters. A learned education, passing through great schools and univerficies, is very expensive; and consumes a moderate fortune, before it is gone through in its proper forces. The purchase of an handsome commission or e rates ment, which would give a man a good figure in another kind of life, is to be made at a much cheaper rate. Now, if we confider this expensive voyage which is undertaken in the fearch of knowledge, and how few there are who take in any confiderable merchandize, how less frequent it is to be able to turn what men have gained into profit; how hard is it, that the very small number who are diflinguished with abilities to know how to vend their wares, and have the good fortune to bring them into port, should suffer being plundered by privateers under the very cannon that should protect them! The most eminent and useful Author of the age we live in, after having laid out a princely revenue in works of charity and beneficence, as became the greatnels of his mind, and the fanctity of his character, would have left the person in the world who was the dearest to him in a narrow condition, had not the fale of his immortal writings brought her in a very confiderable dowery; dowery; though it was impossible for it to be equal to their value. Every one will know, that I here mean the works of the late Archbishop of Canterbury, the copy of which was fold for two thousand five hundred

pounds.

I do not speak with relation to any party; but it has happened, and may often so happen, that men of great learning and virtue cannot qualify themselves for being employed in business, or receiving preferments. In this case, you cut them off from all support, if you take from them the benefit that may arise from their writings. For my own part, I have brought myself to consider things in so unprejudiced a manner, that I esteem more a man who can live by the products of his understanding, than one who does it by the favour of great men.

The zeal of an Author has transported me thus far, though I think myself as much concerned in the capacity of a reader. If this practice goes on, we must never expect to see again a beautiful edition of a book in Great-

Britain.

We have already seen the memoirs of Sir William Temple, published in the same character and volume with the history of Tem Thumb, and the works of our greatest Poets shrunk into penny-books and garlands. For my own part, I expect to see my Lucubrations printed on browner paper than they are at present, and, if the humour continues, must be forced to retrench my expensive way of living, and not smoke above two pipes a-day.

"Mr. Charles Lillie, perfumer, at the corner of Beauford-Buildings, has informed me, that I am obliged to feveral of my cultomers for coming to his floop upon my recommendation, and has also given me further assurances of his upright dealing with all, who shall be so kind as to make use of my name to him. I acknowledge this favour, and have, for the service of my friends who frequent his shop, used the force of magical powers to add value to his wares. By my knowledge in the secret operations of Nature,

"I have made his Powders, Perfumed and I'lain, have"the same effect as love-powder, to all who are too

" much enamoured to do more than drefs at their mif-" trefic. His Amber Orange-flower, Musk, and Civet-

"Violet, put only into an handkerchief, shall have the " fame effect towards an honourable lover's wishes, as " if he had been wrapped in his mother's smock. Wash.

" balls Perfumed, Camphired, and Plain, shall restore complexions to that degree, that a country Fox-hunter,

" who uses them, shall, in a week's time, look with a " courtly and affable paleness, without using the bagnio

or cupping.

" N. B. Mr. Lillie has fnuffs, Barcelona, Sevil, " Musty, Plain, and Spanish, which may be taken by

" a young beginner without danger of fneezing."

Sheer lane, Nov. 30.

"Whereas feveral walking dead persons arrived within the bills of mortality, before and fince the fifteenth " inftant, having been informed of my warrant given to 46 the company of Upholders, and being terrified thereat, it not having been advertised that privilege or protec-"tion would be allowed, have refolved forthwith to " retire to their feveral and respective abodes in the " country, hoping thereby to elude any commission of " interment that may iffue out against them; and being " informed of fuch their fallacious designs, I do hereby " give notice, as well for the good of the Public, as for "the great veneration I have for the before-mentioned " useful society, that a process is gone out against them; " and that, in case of contempt, they may be found or " heard of at most Coffee-houses in and about West-" minfter.

" I must defire my readers to help me out from time " to time in the correction of these my Esfays; for as a 46 shaking hand does not always write legibly, the press " fometimes prints one word for another; and when my " Paper is to be revised, I am perhaps so busy in ob-" ferving the spots of the moon, that I have not time to " find out the Errata that are crept into my Lucubra-

" tions."

Nº 102. Saturday, December 3, 1709.

From my own Apartment, December 2.

A Continuation of the Vision.

the male world were dismissed by the goddess of justice, and disappeared, when on a sudden the whole plain was covered with women. So charming a multitude filled my heart with unspeakable pleasure; and as the celeftial light of the mirror shone upon their faces, several of them seemed rather persons that defcended in the train of the goddess, than such who were brought before her to their trial. The clack of tongues, and confusion of voices, in this new affembly, were so very great, that the goddess was forced to command filence several times, and with some severity, before she could make them attentive to her edicts. They were all fentible, that the most important affair among womankind was then to be fettled, which every one knows to be the point of place. This had raised innumerable disputes among them, and put the whole Sex into a tumult. Every one produced her claim, and ple ied her pretensions. Birth, Beauty, Wit, or Wealth, were words that rung in my ears from all parts of the plain. Some boasted of the merit of their hulbands; others of their own power in governing them. Some pleaded their unspotted virginity; others their numerous iffue. Some valued themselves as they were the mothers, and others as they were the daughters, of confiderable perfons. There was not a fingle accomplishment unmentioned, or unpractifed. The whole congregation was full of finging, dancing, toffing, ogling, squeaking, fmiling, fighing, fanning, frowning, and all those irrefistible arts which women put in practice, to captivate the hearts of reasonable creatures. The goddess, to end N 6

this dispute, caused it to be proclaimed, that every one should take place according as she was more or lefs beautiful. This declaration gave great fatisfaction to the whole affembly, which immediately bridled up, and appeared in all its beauties. Such as believed themselves graceful in their motion, found an occasion of falling back, advancing forward, or making a false step, that they might shew their persons in the most becoming air. Such as had fine necks and bosoms, were wonderfully curious to look over the heads of the multitude, and obferve the most distant parts of the assembly. clapped their hands on their foreheads, as helping their fight to look upon the glories that surrounded the goddefs, but in reality to shew fine hands and arms. Ladies were yet better pleased, when they heard, that in the decision of this great controversy, each of them should be her own judge, and take her place according to her own opinion of herself, when she consulted her lookingglafs.

The goddess then let down the mirror of Truth in a golden chain, which appeared larger in proportion as it descended and approached nearer to the eyes of the beholders. It was the particular property of this lookingglass to banish all false appearances, and shew people what they are. The whole woman was represented, without regard to the usual external features, which were made entirely conformable to their real characters. In short, the most accomplished, taking in the whole circle of female perfections, were the most beautiful; and the most desective, the most deformed. The goddess so varied the motion of the glass, and placed it in so many different lights, that each had an opportunity of seeing herself in it.

It is impossible to describe the rage, the pleasure, or assonishment, that appeared in each face upon its representation in the mirror; multitudes stared at their own form, and would have broke the glass if they could have reached it. Many saw their blooming seatures wither

as they looked upon them, and their felf-admiration turned into a loathing and abhorrence. The Lady who was thought so agreeable in her anger, and was so often extebrated for a woman of fire and spirit, was frighted

at her own image, and fancied she saw a fury in the glass. The interested mistress beheld a Harpy, and the fubtle jilt a Sphinx. I was very much troubled in my own heart, to fee fuch a destruction of fine faces ; but at the same time had the pleasure of seeing several improved, which I had before looked upon as the greatest master-pieces of Nature. I observed, that some few were so humble as to be surprized at their own charms. and that many a one, who had lived in the retirement and severity of a Vestal, shined forth in all the graces and attractions of a Siren. I was ravished at the fight of a particular image in the mirror, which I think the most beautiful object that my eyes ever beheld. There was fomething more than human in her countenance: Her eves were so full of light, that they seemed to beautify every thing they looked upon. Her face was enlivened with such a florid bloom, as did not so properly feem the mark of health, as of immortality. Her shape, her stature, and her mien, were such as distinguished her even there where the whole fair Sex was affembled.

I was impatient to fee the Lady represented by so divine an image, whom I found to be the person that flood at my right hand, and in the same point of view with myfelf. This was a little old woman, who in her prime had been about five feet high, though at prefent fhrunk to about three quarters of that measure: Her natural aspect was puckered up with wrinkles, and her head covered with grey hairs. I had observed all along an innocent chearfulness in her face, which was now heightened into rapture, as she beheld herself in the glass. It was an odd circumstance in my dream, but I cannot forbear relating it, I conceived so great an inclination towards her, that I had thoughts of discoursing her upon the point of marriage, when on a fudden she was carried from me; for the word was now given, that all who were pleafed with their own images, should separate, and place themselves at the head of their Sex.

This detachment was afterwards divided into three bodies, confiding of maids, wives, and widows; the wives being placed in the middle with the maids on the right, and widows on the left, though it was with difficulty that these two last bodies were hindered from

falling into the centre. This feparation of those who liked their real felves, not having lessened the number of the main body so considerably as it might have been wished, the goddess, after having drawn up her mirror. thought fit to make new distinctions among those who did not like the figure which they faw in it. She made feveral wholfome edicts, which are flipt out of my mind ; but there were two which dwelt upon me, as being very extraordinary in their kind, and executed with great feverity. Their defign was, to make an example of two extremes in the female world; of those who are very fevere on the conduct of others, and of those who are very regardless of their own. The first sentence therefore the goddess pronounced, was, that all females addicted to censoriousness and detraction, should lose the use of speech; a punishment which would be the most grievous to the offender, and, what should be the end of all punishments, effectual for rooting out the crime. Upon this edict, which was as foon executed as published, the noise of this assembly very considerably abated. It was a melanchely spectacle, to see so many who had the reputation of rigid virtue struck dumb. A Lady who flood by me, and faw my concern, told me, she wondered how I could be concerned for fuch a pack of - I found by the shaking of her head, she was going to give me their characters, but by her faying no more, I perceived the had lost the command of her tongue. This calamity fell very heavy upon that part of women who are diffinguished by the name of Prudes, a courtly word for female hypocrites, who have a short way to being virtuous, by thewing that others are vicious. The tecond fentence was then pronounced against the loose part of the Sex, that all should immediately be pregnant, who in any part of their lives had ran the hazard of it. This produced a very goodly appearance, and revealed to many misconducts, that made these who were lately fruck dumb, repine more than ever at their want of utterance; though at the fame time, as afflictions feldom come fingle, many of the mutes were also seized with this new calamity. The Ladies were now in fach a condition, that they would have wanted room, had not the plain been large enough to let them divide their ground, ground, and extend their lines on all sides. It was a fensible assistance to me, to see such a multitude of fair ones, either dumb or big-bellied: But I was something more at ease, when I sound that they agreed upon several regulations to cover such missortunes. Among others, that it should be an established maxim in all nations, that a woman's first child might come into the world within six months after her acquaintance with her husband; and that grief might retard the birth of her last until sourteen months after his decease.

This vision lasted until my usual hour of waking, which I did with some surprize, to find myself alone, after having been engaged almost a whole night in so prodigious a multitude. I could not but restect with wonder, at the partiality and extravagance of my vision; which, according to my thoughts, has not done justice to the Sex. If virtue in men is more venerable, it is in women more lovely; which Milton has very finely expressed in his Paradise Lost, where Adam, speaking of Eve, after having afferted his own pre-eminence, as being first in creation and internal faculties, breaks out in the following rapture:

Her loveliness, so absolute she teems,
And in herself complear, so well to know
Her own, that what she wills to do, or say,
Seems wisest, virtuousest, discreetest, best.
All higher knowledge in her presence falls
Degraded, wisdom in discourse with her
Loses discountenanc'd, and like folly shews.
Authority and reason on her wait,
As one intended first, not after made
Occasionally: And, to consummate all,
Greatness of mind, and nobleness, their seat
Build in her loveliest, and create an awe
About her, as a guard angelic plac'd.

Nº 103. Tuesday, December 6, 1709.

— Hæ nugæ seria ducent In mala, derisum semel, exceptumque sinistre. Hor. Ars Poet. ver. 452.

These toys will once to serious mischies fall, When he is laught at, when he's jeer'd by all.

From my own Apartment, December 5.

THERE is nothing gives a man a greater satisfaction, than the sense of having dispatched a great deal of business, especially when it turns to the public emolument. I have much pleasure of this kind upon my spirits at present, occasioned by the satigue of affairs which I went through last Saturday. It is some time since I set apart that day for examining the pretensions of several who had applied to me, for Canes, Perspective-glasses, Snuss-boxes, Orange-slower-waters, and the like ornaments of life. In order to adjust this matter, I had before directed Charles Lillie, of Beauford-Buildings, to prepare a great bundle of blank licences in the following words;

"You are hereby required to permit the bearer of this cane to pass and repass through the streets and

" fuburbs of London, or any place within ten miles of

" it, without let or molestation; provided that he does not walk with it under his arm, brandish it in the air,

or hang it on a button: In which case it shall be for-

" feited; and I hereby declare it forfeited to any one

" who shall think it safe to take it from him.

Isaac Bickerstaff.

The same form, differing only in the proviso's, will serve for a Perspective, Snuff-box, or Persumed Hand-kerchief. I had placed myself in my elbow-chair at the upper-end of my great parlour, having ordered Charles Lillie to take his place upon a joint-stool, with a writing-desk before him. John Morphew also took his station at the door; I having, for his good and faithful services, appointed him my chamber-keeper upon court-days. He let me know, that there were a great number attending without. Upon which I ordered him to give notice, that I did not intend to sit upon snuff-boxes that day; but that those who appeared for canes might enter. The first presented me with the following petition, which I ordered Mr. Lillie to read.

To ISAAC BICKERSTAFF, Esquire, Censor of Great-Britain.

The humble petition of Simon Trippit,

Sheweth,

"That your petitioner having been bred up to a cane
"from his youth, it is now become as necessary to him
as any other of his limbs.

"That a great part of his behaviour depending upon it, he should be reduced to the utmost necessities if he

" fhould lose the use of it.

"That the knocking of it upon his shoe, leaning one leg upon it, or whistling with it on his mouth,

" are such great reliefs to him in conversation, that he

"does not know how to be good company without it.
"That he is at present engaged in an amour, and
"must despair of success if it be taken from him.

"Your petitioner therefore hopes, that, the premises tenderly considered, your Worship will not deprive

" him of so useful and so necessary a support.

And your petitioner shall ever, &c.

Upon the hearing of his case, I was touched with some compassion, and the more so, when upon observing him nearer, I sound he was a Prig. I bid him produce

his cane in court, which he had left at the door. He did fo, and I finding it to be very curiously clouded, with a transparent amber head, and a blue roband to hang upon his wrist, I immediately ordered as clerk Lillie to lay it up, and deliver out to him a part oint, headed with walnut; and then, in order to wear him from it by degrees, permitted him to wear it the lays in a week, and to abate proportionably until he round himself able to go alone.

The fecond who appeared, came limping into the court: And fetting forth in his petition many pretences for the use of a cane, I caused them to be examined one by one; but finding him in different stories, and confronting him with several witnesses who had seen him walk upright, I ordered Mr. Lillie to take in his cane,

and rejected his petition as frivolous.

A third made his entry with great difficulty, leaning upon a flight flick, and in danger of falling every flep he took. I faw the weakness of his hams; and hearing that he had married a young wife about a fortnight before, I bid him leave his cane, and gave him a new pair of crutches, with which he went off in great vigour and alacrity. This Gentleman was succeeded by another, who feemed very much pleased while his petition was reading, in which he had represented, That he was extremely afflicted with the gout, and fet his foot upon the ground with the caution and dignity which accompany that distemper. I suspected him for an impostor, and having ordered him to be fearched, I committed him into the hands of Doctor Thomas Smith in King-fireet, my own corn-cutter, who attended in an outward room, and wrought fo speedy a cure upon him, that I thought fit to fend him away without his cane.

While I was thus dispensing justice, I heard a noise in my outward room; and enquiring what was the occasion of it, my door-keeper told me, that they had taken up one in the very fact as he was passing by my door. They immediately brought in a lively fresh-coloured young man, who made great resistance with hand and foot, but did not offer to make use of his cane, which hung upon his fifth button. Upon examination I found him to be an Oxford Scholar, who was just entered at the Temple.

Temple. He at first disputed the jurisdiction of the court; but being driven out of his little law and logic, he told me very pertly, that he looked upon fuch a perpendicular creature as man, to make a very imperfect figure without a cane in his hand. It is well known, fays he, we ought, according to the natural fituation of our bodies, to walk upon our hands and feet; and that the wisdom of the ancients had described man to be an animal of four legs in the morning, two at noon, and three at night; by which they intimated, that a cane might very properly become part of us in some period of life. Upon which I asked him, whether he wore it at his breaft to have it in readiness when that period should arrive? My young lawyer immediately told me, he had a property in it, and a right to hang it where he pleafed, and to make use of it as he thought fit, provided that he did not break the peace with it. And further faid, that he never took it off his button, unfess it were to lift it up at a coachman, hold it over the head of a drawer, point out the circumstances of a story, or for other fervices of the like nature, that are all within the laws of the land. I did not care for discouraging a young man, who, I faw, would come to good; and because his heart was fet upon his new purchase, I only ordered him to wear it about his neck, instead of hanging it upon his button, and fo dismissed him.

There were several appeared in court, whose pretenfions I found to be very good, and therefore gave them their licences upon paying their sees; as many others had their licences renewed, who required more time for recovery of their lameness than I had before allowed

them.

Having dispatched this set of my petitioners, there came in a well-dressed man, with a glass tube in one hand, and his petition in the other. Upon his entering the room, he threw back the right side of his wig, put forward his right leg, and advancing the glass to his right eye, aimed it directly at me. In the mean while, to make my observations also, I put on my spectacles; in which posture we surveyed each other to some time. Upon the removal of our grasses, I defired him to read his petition, which he did very promptly and early; though

though at the same time it set forth, that he could see nothing distinctly, and was within very few degrees of being utterly blind; concluding with a prayer, that he might be permitted to strengthen and extend his fight by a glass. In answer to this I told him, he might fometimes extend it to his own destruction. As you are now, faid I, you are out of the reach of beauty; the shafts of the finest eyes lose their force before they can come at you; you cannot distinguish a Toast from an Orange-wench; you can fee a whole circle of beauty without any interruption from an impertinent face to discompose you. In short, what are snares for others - My petitioner would hear no more, but told me very feriously, Mr. Bickerstaff, you quite mistake vour man; it is the joy, the pleasure, the employment of my life, to frequent public affemblies, and gaze upon the Fair. In a word, I found his use of a glass was occafioned by no other infirmity but his vanity, and was not so much defigned to make him see, as to make him be teen and diffinguished by others. I therefore refused him a licence for a perspective, but allowed him a pair of spectacles, with full permission to use them in any public affembly as he should think fit. He was followed by so very few of this order of men, that I have reason to hope this fort of cheats are almost at an end.

The Orange-flower-men appeared next with petitions, perfumed so strongly with musk, that I was almost overcome with the scent; and for my own sake was obliged forthwith to licence their handkerchiefs, especially when I found they had sweetened them at Charles Lillie's, and that some of their persons would not be altogether incomes without them. John Morphew, whom I have made the general of my dead men, acquainted me, that the petitioners were all of that order, and could produce certificates to prove it, if I required it. I was so well pleased with this way of their embalming themselves, that I commanded the aforesaid Morphew to give it in orders to his whole army, that every one, who did not surrender himself up to be disposed of by the upholders, should use the same method to keep himself sweet during

his present state of putrefaction.

I finished my fession with great content of mind, reflecting upon the good I had done; for however flightly men may regard these particularities and little follies in dress and behaviour, they lead to greater evils. The bearing to be laughed at for fuch fingularities, teaches us insensibly an impertinent fortitude, and enables us to bear public censure for things which more substantially deferve it. By this means they open a gate to folly, and oftentimes render a man fo ridiculous, as difcredit his virtues and capacities, and unqualify them from doing any good in the world. Besides, the giving into uncommon habits of this nature, is a want of that humble deference which is due to mankind, and, what is worst of all, the certain indication of some secret flaw in the mind of the person that commits them. When I was a young man, I remember a Gentleman of great integrity and worth, was very remarkable for wearing a broad belt, and a hanger instead of a fashionable fword, though in all other points a very well-bred man. I suspected him at first fight to have something wrong in him, but was not able for a long while to discover any collateral proofs of it. I watched him narrowly for fix and thirty years, when at last, to the furprize of every body but myself, who had long expected to fee the folly break out, he married his own cook-maid.

Nº 104. Thursday, December 8, 1709.

Ex re fabellas——Hor. Sat. 6. lib. 2. ver. 78. He tells an old wife's tale very pertinently.

From my own Apartment, December 21.

Y brother Tranquillus being gone out of town for fome days, my fifter Jenny fent me word she would come and dine with me, and therefore defired me to have no other company. I took care accordingly, and was not a little pleased to see her enter the room with a decent and matron-like behaviour, which I thought very much became her. I saw she had a great deal to fay to me, and eafily discovered in her eyes, and the air of her countenance, that she had abundance of fatisfaction in her heart, which the longed to communicate. However, I was resolved to let her break into her discourse her own way, and reduced her to a thoufand little devices and intimations to bring me to the mention of her hufband. But finding I was refolved not to name him, the began of her own accord: My husband, said she, gives his humble service to you: To which I only answered, I hope he is well; and without waiting for a reply, fell into other subjects. She at last was out of all patience, and faid, with a fmile and manner that I thought had more beauty and spirit than I had ever observed before in her, I did not think, brother, vou had been io ill-natured. You have feen, ever fince I came in, that I had a mind to talk of my husband, and you will not be fo kind as to give me an occasion. I did not know, faid I, but it might be a disagreeable subject to you. You do not take me for so old-fashioned a fellow as to think of entertaining a young Lady with

the discourse of her husband. I know, nothing is more acceptable than to speak of one who is to be so; but to speak of one who is so! indeed, Jenny, I am a better bred man than you think me. She shewed a little diflike at my raillery; and by her bridling up, I perceived the expected to be treated hereafter not as Jenny Distaff, but Mrs. Tranquillus. I was very well pleased with this change in her humour; and upon talking with her on several subjects, I could not but fancy, that I saw a great deal of her husband's way and manner, in her remarks, her phrases, the tone of her voice, and the very air of her countenance. This gave me an unspeakable fatisfaction, not only because I had found her a husband, from whom she could learn many things that were laudable, but also because I looked upon her imitation of him as an infallible fign that the entirely loved him. This is an observation that I never knew fail, though I do not remember that any other has made it. The natural shyness of her Sex hindered her from telling me the greatness of her own passion; but I easily collected it from the representation she gave me of his. I have every thing, fays the, in Tranquillus, that I can with for; and enjoy in him, what indeed you have told me were to be met with in a good husband, the Fondness of a Lover, the Tenderness of a Parent, and the Intimacy of a Friend. It transported me to see her eyes swimming in tears of affection when the spoke: And is there not, dear fister, faid I, more pleasure in the possession of fuch a man, than in all the little impertinencies of Balls, Assemblies, and Equipage, which it cost me much pains to make you contemn? She answered, smiling, Tranquillus has made me a fincere convert in a few weeks, though I am afraid you could not have done it in your whole life. To tell you truly, I have only one fear hanging upon me, which is apt to give me trouble in the midst of all my satisfactions: I am afraid, you must know, that I shall not always make the same amiable appearance in his eye that I do at present. You know, brother Bickerstaff, that you have the reputation of a conjurer; and if you have any one secret in your art to make your fifter always beautiful, I should be happier than if I were mistress of all the worlds you have shewn

me in a starry night—Jenny, said I, without having recourse to magic, I shall give you one plain rule, that will not sail of making you always amiable to a man who has so great a passion for you, and is of so equal and reasonable a temper as Tranquillus. Endeavour to please, and you must please; be always in the same disposition as you are when you ask for this secret, and you may take my word, you will never want it. An inviolable sidelity, good humour, and complacency of temper, cut-live all the charms of a fine sace, and make the decays of it invisible.

We discoursed very long upon this head, which was equally agreeable to us both; for I must confess, as I tenderly love her, I take as much pleasure in giving her instructions for her welfare, as she herself does in receiving them. I proceeded therefore to inculcate these sentiments, by relating a very particular passage that

happened within my own knowledge.

There were several of us making merry at a friend's house in a country village, when the fexton of the parishchurch entered the room in a fort of furprize, and told us, that as he was digging a grave in the chancel, a little blow of his pick-ax opened a decayed coffin, in which there were feveral written papers. Our curiofity was immediately raised, so that we went to the place where the fexton had been at work, and found a great concourse of people about the grave. Among the rest there was an old woman, who told us, the person buried there was a Lady whose name I do not think fit to mention, though there is nothing in the story but what tends very much to her honour. This Lady lived feveral years an exemplary pattern of conjugal love, and dying foon after her husband, who every way answered her character in virtue and affection, made it her death-bed request, that all the Letters which she had received from him both before and after her marriage, should be buried in the cossin with her. This I found upon examination were the papers before us. Several of them had suffered fo much by time, that I could only pick out a few words; as my Soul! Lilies! Roses! Dearest Angel! and the like. One of them, which was legible throughout, ran thus :

MADAM,

MADAM,

If you would know the greatness of my love, confider that of your own beauty. That blooming countenance, that snowy bosom, that graceful person, return every moment to my imagination: The bright-ness of your eyes hath hindered me from closing mine since I last saw you. You may still add to your beauties by a smile. A frown will make me the most wretched of men, as I am the most passionate of Lovers."

It filled the whole company with a deep melancholy, to compare the description of the Letter with the person that occasioned it, who was now reduced to a few crumbling bones and a little mouldering heap of earth. With much ado I decyphered another Letter, which began with, "My dear, dear wife." This gave me a curiosity to see how the style of one written in marriage differed from one written in courtship. To my surprize, I sound the fondness rather augmented than lessened, though the panegyric turned upon a different accomplishment. The words were as follow:

BEFORE this short absence from you, I did not know that I loved you so much as I really do; though at the same time, I thought I loved you as much as possible. I am under great apprehension, lest you should have any uneasiness whilst I am defrauded of my share in it, and cannot think of tasting any pleasures that you do not partake with me. Pray, my dear, be careful of your health, if for no other reason, but because you know I could not outlive you. It is natural in absence to make professions of an inviolable constancy; but towards so much merit, it is scarce a virtue, especially when it is but a bare return to that of which you have given me such continued proofs ever since our first acquaintance.

I am, &c.

It happened that the daughter of these two excellent perfons was by when I was reading this Letter. At the night of the coffin, in which was the body of her mother. near that of her father, the melted into a flood of tears. As I had heard a great character of her virtue, and obferved in her this instance of filial piety, I could not refift my natural inclination of giving advice to young people, and therefore addressed myself to her: Young Lady, faid I, you fee how short is the possession of that beauty, in which Nature has been fo liberal to you. You find the melancholy fight before you is a contradiction to the first Letter that you heard on that subject; whereas you may observe, the second Letter, which celebrates your mother's constancy, is itself, be no found in this place, an argument of it. But, Madam, I cught to caution you, not to think the bodies that lie before you, your father and your mother. Know their conflancy is rewarded by a nobler union than by this mingling of their ashes, in a state where there is no danger or peffibility of a fecond feparation.

Nº 105. Saturday, December 10, 1709.

Sheer-line, December 9.

A S foon as my midnight fludies are finished, I take but a very short repose, and am again up at an exercise of another kind; that is to say, my fencing. Thus my life passes away in a restless pursuit of same, and a preparation to defend myself against such as attack it. This anxiety in the point of reputation is the peculiar distress of sine spirits, and makes them liable to a thousand inquietudes, from which men of grosser understandings are exempt; so that nothing is more common, than to see one part of manking live at perfect ease under such circumstances as would make another part of them extirely miserable.

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This may serve for a preface to the history of poor Will Rufin, the fiddler of Wapping, who is a man as much made for happiness and a quiet life, as any one breathing; but has been lately intangled in fo many intricate and unreasonable diffresses, as would have made him. had he been a man of too nice honour, the most wretched of all mortals. I came to the knowledge of his affairs by mere accident. Several of the narrow end of our lane having made an appoinment to visit some friends beyond Saint Katherine's, where there was to be a merry meeting, they would needs take with them the old Gentleman, as they are pleased to call me. I, who value my company by their good-will, which naturally has the same effect as good-breeding, was not too stately, or too wife, to accept of the invitation. Our defign was to be spectators of a sea-ball; to which I readily confented, provided I might be incognito, being naturally pleased with the survey of human life in all its degrees aud circumstances. In order to this merriment, Will Rosin, who is the Corelli of the Wapping side, as Tom Scrape is the Bononcini of Redriffe, was immediately fent for; but to our utter disappointment, poor Will was under an arrest, and desired the assistance of all his kind matters and mittreffes, or he must go to gaol. The whole company received his meffage with great humanity, and very generously threw in their half-pence a piece in a great dish, which purchased his redemption out of the hands of the bailiffs. During the negotiation for his enlargement, I had an opportunity of acquainting myfelf with his history.

Mr. William Rosin, of the parish of Saint Katherine, is somewhat stricken in years, and married to a young widow, who has very much the ascendant over him: This degenerate age being so perverted in all things, that even in the state of matrimony, the young pretend to govern their elders. The musician is extremely fond of her; but is often obliged to lay by his siddle to hear louder notes of hers, when she is pleased to be angry with him: For you are to know, Will is not of consequence enough to enjoy her conversation but when she chides him, or makes use of him to carry on her amours. For she is a woman of stratagem; and even in that part

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of the world where one would expect but very little gallantry, by the force of natural genius, the can be fullen, fick, out of humour, splenetic, want new clothes. and more money, as well as if she had been bred in Cheapside or Cornhill. She was lately under a secret difcontent upon account of a Lover she was like to lose by his marriage; for her gallant, Mr. Ezekiel Boniface, had been twice asked in the church, in order to be joined in matrimony with Mrs. Winifred Dimple, spinster, of the fame parish. Hereupon Mrs. Rosin was far gone in that distemper which well-governed husbands know by the description of, "I am I know not how;" and Will soon understood, that it was his part to enquire into the occafion of her melancholy, or fuffer as the cause of it himfelf. After much importunity, all he could get out of her, was, that she was the most unhappy and the most wicked of all women, and had no friend in the world to tell her grief to. Upon this Will doubled his importunities; but she said, that she should break her poor heart, if he did not take a folemn oath upon a book, that he would not be angry; and that he would expose the perfon who had wronged her to all the world, for the ease of her mind, which was no way elfe to be quieted. The fiddler was fo melted, that he immediately kiffed her, and afterwards the book. When his oath was taken, the begun to lament herself, and revealed to him, that, miserable woman as she was, she had been false to his bed. Will was glad to hear it was no worfe; but before he could reply, nay, faid she, I will make you all the atonement I can, and take shame upon me by proclaiming it to all the world, which is the only thing that can remove my present terrors of mind. This was indeed too true, for her design was to prevent Mr. Boniface's marriage, which was all she apprehended. Will was thoroughly angry, and begun to curse and swear, the ordinary expressions of passion in persons of his condition. Upon which his wife—Ah William! how well you mind the oath you have taken, and the distress of your poor wife, who can keep nothing from you; I hope you will not be fuch a perjured wretch as to forswear yourself. The fiddler answered, that his oath obliged him only not be angry at what was paffed; but I find I find you intend to make me laughed at all over Wapping. No, no, replied Mrs. Rosin, I see well enough what you would be at, you poor spirited cuckold—You are afraid to expose Boniface, who has abused your poor wise, and would fain persuade me still to suffer the stings of conscience; but I assure you, firrah, I will not go to the devil for you. Poor Will was not made for contention, and beseeching her to be pacified, desired she would consult the good of her Soul her own

way, for he would not fay her nay in any thing.

Mrs. Rosin was so very loud and public in her invectives against Boniface, that the parents of his miftress forbad the banns, and his match was prevented; which was the whole defign of this deep stratagem. The father of Boniface brought his action of defamation, arrested the fiddler, and recovered damages. was the diffress from which he was relieved by the company; and the good husband's air, history, and jollity, upon his enlargement, gave occasion to very much mirth; especially when Will finding he had friends to fland by him, proclaimed himself a cuckold by way of infult over the family of the Bonifaces. Here is a man of tranquillity without reading Seneca! what work had fuch an incident made among persons of distinction? The brothers and kindred of each fide must have been drawn out, and hereditary hatred entailed on the families as long as their very names remained in the world. Who would believe that Herod, Othello, and Will Rofin, were of the same species?

There are quite different fentiments which reign in the parlour and the kitchen; and it is by the point of honour, when justly regulated, and inviolably observed, that some men are superior to others, as much as mankind in general are to brutes. This puts me in mind of a passage in the admirable Poem called the Dispensary, where the nature of true honour is artfully described in

an ironical dispraise of it.

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But ere we once engage in honour's cause, First know what honour is, and whence it was. Scorn'd by the base, 'tis courted by the brave, The hero's tyrant, and the coward's slave.

Born

Born in the noisy camp, it lives on air; And both exists by hope, and by despair. Angry whene'er a moment's ease we gain, And reconcil'd at our returns of pain. It lives, when in death's arms the hero lies, But when his safety he consults, it dies. Bigotted to this idol, we disclaim Rest, health, and ease, for nothing but a name.

" A very odd fellow vifited me to-day at my lodgings, " and defired encouragement and recommendation from " me for a new invention of Knockers to doors, which " he told me he had made, and professed to teach rustic " fervants the use of them. I defired him to show me " an experiment of this invention; upon which he fixed " one of his knockers to my parlour door. He then " gave me a complete fet of knocks, from the folitary " rap of the dun and beggar, to the thunderings of the " faucy footman of quality, with several flourishes and " rattlings never yet performed. He likewise played " over some private notes, distinguishing the familiar " friend or relation from the modish visitor; and di-" recting when the referve candles are to be lighted. " He has several other curiofities in this art. He waits " only to receive my approbation of the main defign. " He is now ready to practife to fuch as shall apply " themselves to him; but I have put off his public " licence until next court day."

N. B. He teaches under ground.

Nº 106. Tuesday, December 13, 1709.

——Invenies dissetti membra poetæ. Hon. lib. I. Sat. 4. v. 62.

You will find the limbs of a difmember'd poet.

Will's Coffee-house, December 12.

Was this evening fitting at the fide-table, and read-ing one of my own Papers with great fatisfaction, not knowing that I was observed by any in the room. I had not long enjoyed this secret pleasure of an Author, when a Gentleman, some of whose works I have been highly entertained with, accossed me after the following manner. Mr. Bickerflaff, you know I have for some years devoted myself wholly to the Muses, and perhaps you will be furprized when I tell you I am resolved to take up and apply myself to business. I shall therefore beg you will stand my friend, and recommend a customer to me for feveral goods that I have now upon my hands. I defired him to let me have a particular, and I would do my utmost to serve him. I have first of all, favs he, the progress of an amour digested into sonners, beginning with a poem to the unknown fair, and ending with an epithalamium. I have celebrated in it, her cruelty, her pity, her face, her shape, her wit, her good humour, her dancing, her singing—" I could not forbear " interrupting him; this is a most accomplished Lady, " faid I; but has she really, with all these perfections, " a fine voice?" Pugh, fays he, you do not believe there is such a person in Nature. This was only my employment in folitude last summer, when I had neither friends or books to divert me. I was going, faid I, to ask her name, but I find it is only an imaginary mistress. That's true, replied my friend, but her name is Flavia.

I have, continued he, in the fecond place, a collection of lampoons, calculated either for the Bath, Tunbridge, or any place where they drink waters, with blank spaces for the names of such person or persons as may be inferted in them on occasion. Thus much I have told only of what I have by me proceeding from love and malice. I have also at this time the sketch of an heroic poem upon the next peace: Several indeed of the verses are either too long or too short, it being a rough draught of my thoughts upon that subject. I thereupon told him, that as it was, it might probably pass for a very good pindaric, and I believed I knew one who would be willing to deal with him for it upon that foot. I must tell you also, said he, I have made a dedication to it. which is about four fides close written, that may serve any one that is tall, and understands Latin. I have further, about fifty fimiles, that were never yet applied, besides three and twenty descriptions of the sun rising, that might be of great use to an epic poet. These are my more bulky commodities: Besides which I have several small wares that I would part with at easy rates; as, observations upon life, and moral sentences, reduced into feveral couplets, very proper to close up acts of plays, and may be easily introduced by two or three lines of profe, either in tragedy or comedy. If I could find a purchaser curious in Latin poetry, I could accommodate him with two dozen of epigrams, which, by reason of a few false quantities, should come for little or nothing.

I heard the Gentleman with much attention, and asked him, whether he would break bulk, and sell his goods by retail, or designed they should all go in a lump? He told me, that he should be very loath to part them, unless it was to oblige a man of Quality, or any person for whom I had a particular friendship. My reason for asking, said I, is, only because I know a young Gentleman who intends to appear next spring in a new jingling chariot, with the figures of the nine Muses on each side of it; and I believe, would be glad to come into the world in verse. We could not go on in our treaty, by reason of two or three critics that joined us. They had been talking, it seems, of the two Letters

which were found in the coffin, and mentioned in one of my late Lucubrations, and came with a request to me, that I would communicate any others of them that were legible. One of the Gentlemen was pleased to say, that it was a very proper instance of a widow's constancy; and said, he wished I had subjoined, as a foil to it, the following passage in Hamlet. The young Prince was not yet acquainted with all the guilt of his mother, but turns his thoughts on her sudden forgetfulness of his father, and the indecency of her hasty marriage.

That it should come to this! But two months dead! nay, not so much, not two! So excellent a King! that was, to this, Hyperion to a fatyr: So loving to my mother, That he permitted not the winds of heav'n To visit her face too roughly. Heaven and earth! Must I remember? Why she would hang on him, As if increase of appetite had grown By what it fed on: And yet, within a month! Let me not think on't—Frailty, thy name is woman! A little month! or ere those shoes were old, With which she followed my poor father's body, Like Niobe, all tears, why she, even she, Oh heav'n! a brute, that wants discourse of reason, Would have mourn'd longer-married with mine uncle! My father's brother! but no more like my father, Than I to Hercules. Within a month! Ere yet the falt of most unrighteous tears Had left the flushing of her gauled eyes, She married—O most wicked speed, to post With fuch dexterity to incestuous sheets! It is not, nor it cannot come to good, But break my heart; for I must hold my tongue.

The several emotions of mind, and breaks of passion, in this speech, are admirable. He has touched every circumstance that aggravated the fact, and seemed capable of hurrying the thoughts of a son into distraction. His father's tenderness for his mother, expressed in so delicate a particular; his mother's fondness for his father no less exquisitely described; the great and amiable

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figure of his dead parent drawn by a true filial piety; his disdain of so unworthy a successor to his bed: But above all, the shortness of the time between his father's death and his mother's fecond marriage, brought together with so much disorder, make up as noble a part as any in that celebrated tragedy. The circumstance of time I never could enough admire. The widowhood had lasted two months. This is his first reslection: But as his indignation rifes he finks to scarce two months: Afterwards into a month; and at last, into a little month: But all this fo naturally, that the reader accompanies him in the violence of his passion, and finds the time lessen insensibly, according to the different workings of his disdain. I have not mentioned the incest of her marriage, which is fo obvious a provocation; but cannot forbear taking notice, that when his fury is at its height, he cries, " Frailty, thy name is Woman!" as railing at the Sex in general, rather than giving himself leave to think his mother worse than others, --Deficerantur multa.

"Whereas Mr. Jeffer, Groggi am has furrendered himfelf by his Letter bearing date December 7, and has fent an acknowledgment that he is dead, praying an order to the company of Upholders for interment at

" fuch a reasonable rate as may not impoverish his heirs:

"The faid Groggram having been dead ever fince he was born, and added nothing to his small patrimony,

" Mr. Bickerstaff has taken the premises into consideration; and being sensible of the ingenuous and singular

" behaviour of this petitioner, pronounces the faid " Jeffery Grogg am a live man, and will not fuffer that

he should bury himself out of modesty; but requires him to remain among the living, as an example to

" those obtling e dead men, who will neither labour for

" life, nor go to their grave.

" N. B. Mr. Groggram is the first person that has

" come in upon Mr. Bickerstaff's dend warrant.

" Florinds demands by her Letter of this day to be allowed to pass for a living woman, having danced

" the Deraffire Hornpipe in the prefence of feveral

" friends on Saturday fait.

"Granted; Provided she can bring proof, that she can make a pudding on the twenty-fourth instant."

Nº 107. Thursday, December 15, 1709.

—— Ab miser! Quantâ laboras in charybdi, Digne puer meliore stammâ?

Hor. Od. 27. ver. 20.

Unhappy youth! doth she surprize?
And have her slames possess'd
Thy burning breast?
Thou didst deserve a dart from kinder eyes.

CREECH.

Sheer-lane, December 14.

A BOUT four this afternoon, which is the hour I usually put myself in a readiness to receive company, there entered a Gentleman who I believed at first came upon some ordinary question; but as he approached nearer to me, I faw in his countenance a deep forrow, mixed with a certain ingenuous complacency that gave me sudden good-will towards him. He stared and betrayed an absence of thought as he was going to communicate his business to me. But at last, recovering himself, he said with an air of great respect, Sir, it would be an injury to your knowledge in the occult sciences, to tell you what is my distress; I dare say, you read it in my countenance: I therefore beg your advice . to the most unhappy of all men. Much experience has made me particularly fagacious in the discovery of distempers, and I foon faw that his was Love. I then turned to my common-place-book, and found his cafe_ under the word Coquette; and reading over the catalogue which I have collected out of this great city of all 06. under !

under that character, I faw at the name of Cynthia his fit came upon him. I repeated the name thrice after a musing manner, and immediately perceived his pulse quicken two thirds; when his eyes, instead of the wildness with which they appeared at his entrance, looked with all the gentleness imaginable upon me, not without tears. Oh, Sir, faid he, you know not the unworthy usage I have met with from the woman my Soul doats on. I could gaze at her to the end of my Being; yet when I have done fo, for some time past, I have found her eyes fixed on another. She is now two-and-twenty, in the full tyranny of her charms, which she once acknowledged she rejoiced in, only as they made her choice of me, out of a croud of admirers, the more obliging. But in the midst of this happiness, so it is Mr. Bickerstaff, that young Quickfett, who is just come to town, without any other recommendation than that of being tolerably handsome, and excessively rich, has won her heart in so shameless a manner, that she dies for him. In a word, I would confult you, how to cure myfelf of this passion for an ungrateful woman, who triumphs in her falshood, and can make no man happy, because her own satisfaction confifts chiefly in being capable of giving diffress. I know Quickfett is at present considerable with her, for no other reason but that he can be without her, and feel no pain in the loss. Let me therefore desire you, Sir, to fortify my reason against the levity of an Inconstant, who ought only to be treated with neglect.

All this time I was looking over my receipts, and asked him, if he had any good winter boots—boots, Sir, said my patient—I went on; You may easily reach Harwich in a day, so as to be there when the packet goes off. Sir, said the Lover, I find you design me for travelling; but alas! I have no language, it will be the same thing to me as solitude, to be in a strange country. I have, continued he, sighing, been many years in love with this creature, and have almost lost even my English, at least to speak such as any body else does. I asked a tenant of ours, who came up to town the other day with rent, whether the slowery mead near my father's house in the country, had any shepherd in it? I have called a cave a grotto these three years, and

must keep ordinary company, and frequent busy people for some time, before I can recover my common words. I smiled at his raillery upon himself, though I well saw it came from a heavy heart. You are, said I, acquainted to be sure with some of the general officers: Suppose you made a campaign? if I did, said he, I should venture more than any man there, for I should be in danger of starving; my father is such an untoward old Gentleman, that he would tell me he found it hard enough to pay his taxes towards the war without making it more expensive by an allowance to me. With all this, he is as fond

as he is rugged, and I am his only fon.

I looked upon the young Gentleman with much tenderness, and not like a physician, but a friend; for I talked to him so largely, that if I had parcelled my discourse into distinct prescriptions, I am confident I gave him two hundred pounds worth of advice. He heard me with great attention, bowing, smiling, and shewing all other inflances of that natural good breeding which ingenuous tempers pay to those who are elder and wifer than themselves. I entertained him to the following purpose. I am forry, Sir, that your passion is of so long a date, for evils are much more curable in their beginnings; but at the fame time must allow, that you are not to be blamed, fince your youth and merit has been abused by one of the most charming, but the most unworthy fort of women, the Coquettes. A Coquette is a chafte jilt, and differs only from a common one, as a foldier, who is perfect in exercise, does from one that is actually in fervice. This grief, like all others, is to be cured only by time; and although you are convinced this moment, as much as you will be ten years hence, that she ought to be scorned and neglected, you see you must not expect your remedy from the force of reason. The cure then is only in time, and the hastening of the cure only in the manner of employing that time. You have answered me as to travel and a campaign, so that we have only Great-Britain to avoid her in. Be then yourself, and listen to the following rules, which only can be of use to you in this unaccountable distemper, wherein the patient is often averse even to his recovery. It has been of benefit to some to apply themselves to business,

business, but as that may not lie in your way, go down to your estate, mind your fox-hounds, and venture the life you are weary of, over every hedge and ditch in the country. These are wholsome remedies; but if you can have resolution enough rather stay in town, and recover yourfelf even in the town where she inhabits. Take particular care to avoid all places where you may possibly meet her, and shun the fight of every thing which may bring her to your remembrance; there is an infection in all that relates to her: You will find, her house, her chariot, her domestics, and her very lap-dog, are fo many instruments of torment. Tell me seriously, do you think you could bear the fight of her fan? he shook his head at the question, and faid, ah! Mr. Bickerstaff, you must have been a patient, or you could not have been so good a physician. To tell you truly, faid I, about the thirtieth year of my age, I received a wound that has fill left a fear in my mind, never to be quite worn out by time or philosophy.

The means which I found the most effectual for my cure, were reflections upon the ill-usage I had received from the woman I loved, and the pleasure I saw her

take in my fufferings.

I considered the distress she brought upon me, the greatest that could be al an human creature, at the same time that she did not in slift this upon one who was her enemy, one that had done her an injury, one that had wished her ill; but on the man who loved her more than any else loved her, and more than it was possible for him to love any other person.

In the next place, I took pains to confider her in all her imperfections; and that I might be fure to hear of them constantly, kept company with those, her Female friends, who were her dearest and most intimate ac-

quaintance.

Among her highest imperfections, I still dwelt upon her baseness of mind and ingratitude, that made her triumph in the pain and anguish of the man who loved her, and of one who in those days, without vanity be it spoken, was thought to deserve her love.

To shorten my story, she was married to another, which would have distracted me, had he proved a good

husband;

husband; but to my great pleasure, he used her at first with coldness, and afterwards with contempt. I hear he still treats her very ill; and am informed, that she often says to her woman, this is a just revenge for my falshood to my first love: What a wretch am I, that might have

been married to the famous Mr. Bickerstaff.

My patient looked upon me with a kind of melancholy pleasure, and told me, He did not think it was possible for a man to live to the age I am now of, who in his thirtieth year had been tortured with that passion in its violence. For my part, said he, I can neither eat, drink, nor sleep in it; nor keep company with any body, but two or three friends who are in the same condition.

There, answered I, you are to blame; for as you ought to avoid nothing more than keeping company with yourself, so you ought to be particularly cautious of keeping company with men like yourself. As long as

you do this, you do but indulge your diffemper.

I must not dismits you without surther instructions. If possible, transfer your passion from the woman you are now in love with, to another; or if you cannot do that, change the passion itself into some other passion, that is, to speak more plainly, find out some other agreeable woman: Or if you cannot do this, grow covetous, ambitious, lingious; turn your love of woman into that of prosit, present, reputation; and for a time, give up yourself entirely to the pursuit.

This is a method we fometimes take in physic, when we turn a desperate disease into one we can more easily

cure.

He made me little answer to all this, but crying out, Ah, Sir! for his passion reduced his discourse to inter-

jections.

There is one thing, added I, which is present death to a man in your condition, and therefore to be avoided with the greatest care and caution: that is, in a word, to think of your midress and rival together, whether walking, discouring, dathing— The Devil! he cried out, who can bear it? to compose him, for I pitied him very much; the time will so to, said I, when you shall not only bear it, but laugh at it. As a preparation to

it, ride every morning an hour at least with the wind full in your face. Upon your return, recollect the several precepts which I have now given you, and drink upon them a bottle of Spaw-water. Repeat this every day for a month successively, and let me see you at the end of it. He was taking his leave, with many thanks, and some appearance of consolation in his countenance, when I called him back to acquaint him, that I had private information of a design of the Coquettes to buy up all the true Spaw-water in town: Upon which he took his leave in haste, with a resolution to get all things ready for entering upon his regimen the next morning.

Nº 108. Saturday, December 17, 1709.

Pronaque cum spectent animalia cætera terram,
Os homini sublime dedit : Cælumque tueri
Justit——— Ovid. Met. 1. 1. v. 85.

And while beafts looked downward on the ground with groveling eyes, to man he gave a look fublime, to contemplate the stars.

Sheer-lane, December 16.

It is not to be imagined, how great an effect well-disposed lights, with proper forms and orders in assemblies have upon some tempers. I am sure I feel it in so extraordinary a manner, that I cannot in a day or two get out of my imagination any very beautiful or disagreeable impression which I receive on such occasions. For this reason I frequently look in at the play-house, in order to enlarge my thoughts, and warm my mind with some new ideas, that may be serviceable to me in my Lucubrations.

In this disposition I entered the theatre the other day, and placed myself in a corner of it, very convenient for feeing, without being myself observed. I found the audience hushed in a very deep attention, and did not question but some noble tragedy was just then in its criss, or that an incident was to be unravelled which would determine the fate of an hero. While I was in this suspence, expecting every moment to see my old friend Mr. Betterton appear in all the majesty of distress. to my unspeakable amazement there came up a monster with a face between his feet; and as I was looking on, he raised himself on one leg in such a perpendicular posture, that the other grew in a direct line above his head. It afterwards twifted itself into the motions and wreathings of feveral different animals, and after great variety of shapes and transformations went off the stage in the figure of an human creature. The admiration, the applause, the satisfaction of the audience, during this strange entertainment, is not to be expressed. I was very much out of countenance for my dear countrymen, and looked about with some apprehension, for fear any foreigner should be present. Is it possible, thought I, that human nature can rejoice in its difgrace, and take pleasure in seeing its own figure turned to ridicule, and distorted into forms that raise horror and aversion? There is fomething difingenuous and immoral in the being able to bear fuch a fight. Men of elegant and noble minds, are shocked at the seeing characters of perfons who deserve esteem for their virtue, knowledge, or fervices to their country, placed in wrong lights, and by misrepresentation made the subject of buffoonery. Such a nice abhorrence is not indeed to be found among the vulgar; but methinks it is wonderful, that those, who have nothing but the outward figure to distinguish them as men, should delight in seeing it abused, villisted, and difgraced.

I must confess, there is nothing that more pleases me, in all that I read in books, or see among mankind, than such passages as represent human nature in its proper dignity. As man is a creature made up of different extremes, he has something in him very great and very mean: A skilful artist may draw an excellent picture of him in either of these views. The finest Authors of antiquity have taken him on the more advantageous side.

They

They cultivate the natural grandeur of the Soul, raife in her a generous ambition, feed her with hopes of immortality and perfection, and do all they can to widen the partition between the virtuous and the vicious, by making the difference betwixt them as great as between gods and brutes. In short, it is impossible to read a page in Plato, Tully, and a thousand other ancient Moraliss, without being a greater and a better man for it. On the contrary, I could never read any of our modifi French Authors, or those of our own country, who are the imitators and admirers of that trifling nation, without being for some time out of humour with myself, and at every thing about me. Their business is, to depreciate human nature, and consider it under its worst appearances. They give mean interpretations and base motives to the worthiest actions: They resolve virtue and vice into conflitution. In short, they endeavour tomake no distinction between man and man, or between the species of men and that of brutes. As an instance of this kind of Authors, among many others, let any one examine the celebrated Rochefaucault, who is the great Philosopher for administring of consolation to the idle, the envious, and worthless part of mankind.

I remember a young Gentleman of moderate underflanding, but great vivacity, who by dipping into many Authors of this nature, had got a little smattering of knowledge, just enough to make an atheist or a freethinker, but not a philosopher or a man of sense. With these accomplishments, he went to visit his father in the country, who was a plain, rough, honest man, and wise, though not learned. The fon, who took all opportunities to shew his learning, began to establish a new religion in the family, and to enlarge the narrowness of their country notions; in which he succeeded so well, that he had feduced the butler by his table-talk, and flaggered his eldest sister. The old Gentleman began to be alarmed at the schisms that arose among his children, but did not vet believe his son's doctrine to be so pernicious as it really was, until one day talking of his fetting-dog, the fon faid, he did not question but Trey was as immortal as any one of the family; and in the heat of the argument told his father, that for his own

part, he expected to die like a dog. Upon which, the old man starting up in a very great passion, cried out, then, sirrah, you shall live like one; and taking his cane in his hand, cudgelled him out of his system. This had so good an effect upon him, that he took up from that day, fell to reading good books, and is now a bencher in the Middle-Temple.

I do not mention this cudgelling part of the story with a design to engage the secular arm in matters of this nature; but certainly, if it ever exerts itself in affairs of opinion and speculation, it ought to do it on such shallow and despicable pretenders to knowledge, who endeavour to give man dark and uncomfortable prospects of his Being, and destroy those principles which are the support, happiness, and glory of all pub-

lic focieties, as well as private perfons.

I think it is one of Pythagoras's golden fayings, "That a man should take care above all things to have " a due respect for himself:" And it is certain, that this licentious fort of Authors, who are for depreciating mankind, endeavour to difappoint and undo what the most refined spirits have been labouring to advance fince the beginning of the world. The very defign of dress, good-breeding, outward ornaments and ceremony, were to lift up human nature, and fet it off to an advantage. Architecture, painting, and statuary, were invented with the fame defign; as indeed every art and science contributes to the embellishment of life, and to the wearing off and throwing into shades the mean and low parts of our nature. Poetry carries on this great end more than all the rest, as may be seen in the following passage, taken out of Sir Francis Bacon's "Advancement of Learning," which gives a truer and better account of this art than all the Volumes that were ever written upon it.

" fubiliance

[&]quot;Poetry, especially heroical, seems to be raised altogether from a noble foundation, which makes much
for the dignity of man's nature. For seeing this
fensible world is in dignity inferior to the Soul of
man, poefy seems to endow human nature with that
which history denies; and to give satisfaction to the
mind, with at least the shadow of things, where the

" substance cannot be had. For if the matter be tho-" roughly confidered, a strong argument may be drawn " from poefy, that a more stately greatness of things, a " more perfect order, and a more beautiful variety, de-" lights the Soul of man, than any way can be found in " Nature fince the fall. Wherefore seeing the acts and " events, which are the subjects of true history, are not " of that amplitude as to content the mind of man; " poefy is ready at hand to feign acts more heroical. " Because true history reports the successes of business " not proportionable to the merit of virtues and vices, " poefy corrects it, and presents events and fortunes " according to defert, and according to the law of " Providence: Because true history, through the fre-" quent fatiety and fimilitude of things, works a distaste " and misprisson in the mind of man; poefy cheareth " and refresheth the Soul, chanting things rare and va-" rious, and full of viciflitudes. So as poely ferveth and " conferreth to delectation, magnanimity and morality; " and therefore it may feem defervedly to have fome " participation of divineness, because it doth raise the " mind, and exalt the spirit with high raptures, by " proportioning the shews of things to the desires of the " mind, and not submitting the mind to things as rea-" fon and history do. And by these allurements and " congruities, whereby it cherisheth the Soul of man, " joined also with consort of music, whereby it may " more sweetly infinuate itself; it hath won such access, " that it hath been in estimation even in rude times, " and barbarous nations, when other learning stood " excluded."

But there is nothing which favours and falls in with this natural greatness and dignity of human nature so much as religion, which does not only promise the entire refinement of the mind, but the glorifying of the body, and the immortality of both. Nº 109. Tuesday, December 20, 1709.

Perditur hæc inter misero lux,—
Hor. Sat. 6. lib. 2. ver. 59.

In fuch trifles as these they throw away their time.

Sheer-lane, December 19.

HERE has not some years been such a tumult in our neighbourhood, as this evening about fix. At the lower end of the lane the word was given, that there was a great funeral coming by. The next moment came forward, and in a very hafty, instead of a solemn manner, a long train of lights, when at last a footman, in very high youth and health, with all his force, ran through the whole art of beating the door of the house next to me, and ended his rattle with the true finishing rap. This did not only bring one to the door at which he knocked, but to that of every one in the lane in an instant. Among the rest, my country-maid took the alarm, and immediately running to me, told me, there was a fine, fine Lady, who had three men with burial torches making way before her, carried by two men upon poles, with looking-glaffes on each fide of her, and one glass also before, she herself appearing the prettiest that ever was. The girl was going on in her story, when the Lady was come to my door in her chair, having mistaken the house. As soon as she entered I saw she was Mr. Isaac's scholar, by her speaking air, and the becoming stop she made when she began her apology. You will be surprized, Sir, said she, that I take this liberty, who am utterly a stranger to you: Besides that, it may be thought an indecorum that I visit a man. She made here a pretty hefitation, and held her fan to her face—Then, as if recovering her refolution, she proceeded ceeded - But I think you have faid, that men of your age are of no Sex; therefore I may be as free with you as one of my own. The Lady did me the honour to consult me on some particular matters, which I am not at liberty to report. But before the took her leave, the produced a long lift of names, which she looked upon to know whither she was to go next. I must confess, I could hardly forbear discovering to her immediately, that I fecretly laughed at the fantastical regularity she observed in throwing away her time; but I seemed to indulge her in it, out of a curiofity to hear her own fense of her way of life. Mr. Bickerstaff, said she, you cannot imagine how much you are obliged to me in flaying thus long with you, having fo many vifits to make; and indeed, if I had not hopes that a third part of those I am going to will be abroad, I should be unable to difpatch them this evening. Madam, faid I, are you in all this hatte and perplexity, and only going to fuch as you have not a mind to fee? Yes, Sir, faid the, I have feveral now with whom I keep a conflant correspondence, and return Visit for Visit punctually every week, and yet we have not feen each other fince last November was twelvemonth.

She went on with a very good air, and fixing her eyes on her lift, told me, the was obliged to ride about three miles and an half before the arrived at her own house. I asked after what manner this lift was taken, whether the persons writ their names to her, and defired that fayour, or how fine knew fine was not cheated in her mutterroll? The method we take, fays she, is, that the porter or fervant who comes to the door, writes down all the names who come to fee us, and all luch are intitled to a return of their Vifit. But, faid I, Madam, I presume those who are fearthing for each other, and know one another by messages, may be understood as candidates only for each other's favour; and that after fo many how-do-ye-does, you proceed to Vifit or not, as you like the run of each other's reputation or fortune. You understand it aright, faid she; and we become friends, as foon as we are convinced that our diflike to each other may be of any consequence: For to tell you truly, faid she, for it is in vain to hide any thing from a man of of your penetration, general Visits are not made out of good-will, but for fear of ill-will. Punctuality in this case is often a suspicious circumstance; and there is nothing fo common as to have a Lady fay, I hope she has heard nothing of what I faid of her, that she grows fo great with me. But indeed my porter is fo dull and negligent, that I fear he has not put down half the people I owe Visits to. Madam, faid I, methinks it would be very proper if your Gentleman-usher or Groom of the Chamber were always to keep an account by way of debtor and creditor. I know a city Lady who uses that method, which I think very laudable; for though you may possibly at the Court end of the town receive at the door, and light up better than wi hin Temple-bar, yet I must do that justice to my friends the Ladies within the walls, to own, that they are much more exact in their correspondence. The Lady I was going to mention as an example, has always the fecond apprentice out of the counting-house for her own use on her Visiting-day, and he fees down very methodically all the Vifits which are made her I remember very well, that on the hift of January last, when she made up her account for the year 1708, it stood thus:

Mrs. Court wood Debtor.	Per Contra-	Creditor.
four Vifits	By eleven hun- dred and nine paid.	1109
received.	Due to ba ance	595
	1	1704

This Gentlewoman is a woman of great economy, and was not afraid to go to the bottom of her affairs; and therefore ordered her apprentice to give her credit for my Lady Eafy's impertment Vifits upon wrong days, and deduct only welve per Cent. He had orders also to subtract one and an half from the whole of such as she had a men herse f o before she kept a day; and after taking the proper articles of credit on her side, she was in arrear but five hundred. She ordered her husband

to buy in a couple of fresh coach-horses; and with no other loss, than the death of two footmen, and a churchvard cough brought upon her coachman, she was clear in the world on the tenth of February last, and keeps fo before-hand, that she pays every body their own, and yet makes daily new acquaintances. I know not whether this agreeable Visitant was fired with the example of the Lady I told her of, but she immediately vanished out of my fight, it being, it feems, as necessary a point of good-breeding, to go off as if you stole something out of the house, as it is to enter as if you came to fire it. I do not know one thing that contributes fo much to the lessening the esteem men of sense have to the fair Sex, as this article of Vifits. A young Lady cannot be married, but all impertinents in town must be beating the Tattoo from one quarter of the town to the other, to flew they know what passes. If a man of honour should once in an age marry a woman of merit for her intrinsic value, the envious things are all in motion in an instant to make it known to the fisterhood as an indifcretion, and publish to the town how many pounds he might have had to have been troubled with one of them. After they are tired with that, the next thing is, to make their compliments to the married couple and their relations. They are equally bufy at a funeral, and the death of a person of Quality is always attended with the murder of feveral fets of coach horses and chairmen. In both cases, the Visitants are wholly unaffected, either with joy or forrow. For which reason, their congratulations and condolences are equally words of course; and one would be thought wonderfully ill-bred, that should build upon such expressions as encouragements to expect from them any inflance of friendship.

Thus are the true causes of living, and the solid pleafures in life, lost in shew, imposture, and impertinence. As for my part, I think most of the misfortunes in families arise from the trisling way the women have in spending their time, and gratifying only their eyes and

ears, inflead of their reason and understanding.

A fine young woman, bred under a vifiting mother, knows all that is possible for her to be acquainted with by report, and sees the virtuous and the vicious used so indifferently

indifferently, that the fears she is born with are abated, and desires indulged, in proportion to her love of that light and trisling conversation. I know I talk like an old man; but I must go on to say, that I think the general reception of mixed company, and the pretty fellows that are admitted at those assemblies, give a young woman so salse an idea of life, that she is generally bred up with a scorn of that sort of merit in a man, which only can make her happy in marriage; and the wretch, to whose lot she falls, very often receives in his arms a Coquette, with the resuse of an heart long before given away to a Coxcomb.

"Having received from the society of upholders sundry complaints of the obstinate and refractory behaviour of several dead persons, who have been guilty
of very great outrages and disorders, and by that
means elapsed the proper time of their interment;
and having on the other hand received many appeals
from the aforesaid dead persons, wherein they desire
to be heard before such their interment; I have set
apart Wednesday, the twenty-sisth instant, as an extraordinary court-day for the hearing both parties. If
therefore any one can alledge why they or any of their
acquaintance should or should not be buried, I desire
they may be ready with their witnesses at that time,
or that they will for ever after hold their tongues.

N. B. This is the last hearing on the subject."



Nº 110. Tuesday, December 22, 1709.

— Quæ lucis miseris tam dira cupido? VIRG. Æn. lib. 6. ver. 721.

What makes the unhappy Souls fo covetous of light?

Sheer-lane, December 21.

A S foon as I had placed myself in my chair of judicature, I ordered my clerk, Mr. Lillie, to read to the affembly, who were gathered together according to notice, a certain declaration, by way of charge, to open the purpose of my fession, which tended only to this explanation, that as other Courts were often called to demand the execution of persons dead in law; so this was held to give the last orders relating to those who are dead in reason. The solicitor of the New-company of Upholders near the Hay market appeared in behalf of that useful Society, and brought in an accusation of a young woman, who herfelf stood at the bar before me. Mn. Lillie read her indichment, which was in substance, That whereas Mrs. Rebecca Pindust, of the parish of Saint Martin in the Fields, had by the use of one instrument called a looking-glass, and by the further use of certain attire, made either of cambric, muslin, or other linen wares, upon her head, attained to fuch an evil art and magical force in the motion of her eyes and turn of her countenance, that the the faid Rebecca had put to death feveral young men of the faid parith; and that the faid young men had acknowledged in certain papers, commonly called Love-letters, which were produced in court, gilded on the edges, and feeled with a particular wax, with certain amorous and inclinating words wrought upon the faid feals, that they died for the faid Rebecca: And whereas the fail Reback perfifted in the faid evil practice; practice; this way of life the faid Society construed to be according to former edicts, a state of death, and demanded an order for the interment of the said Rebecca.

I looked upon the maid with great humanity, and defired her to make answer to what was said against her. She said, it was indeed true, that she had practifed all the arts and means she could to dispose of herself happily in marriage, but thought she did not come under the censure expressed in my writings for the same; and humbly hoped, I would not condemn her for the ignorance of her accusers, who, according to their own words, had rather represented her killing, than dead. She further alledged, that the expressions mentioned in the Papers written to her, were become mere words, and that she had been always ready to marry any of those who faid they died for her; but that they made their escape as soon as they found themselves pitied or believed. She ended her discourse, by desiring I would for the future fettle the meaning of the words, " I die," in Letters of Love.

Mrs. Pindust behaved herself with such an air of innocence, that she easily gained credit, and was acquitted. Upon which occasion I gave it as a standing rule, that any person, who in any Letter, Billet, or Discourse, should tell a woman he died for her, should, if she pleased, be obliged to live with her, or be immediately interred upon such their own confession, without bail or

mainprize.

It happened, that the very next who was brought before me was one of her admirers, who was indicted upon that very head. A Letter which he acknowledged to be his own hand was read, in which were the following words, " Cruel creature, I die for you." It was observable that he took snuff all the time his accusation was reading. I asked him, how he came to use these words, if he were not a dead man? He told me, he was In love with the Lady, and did not know any other way of telling her fo; and that all his acquaintance took the fame method. Though I was moved with compassion towards him by reason of the weakness of his parts, yet for example-fake I was forced to answer, your sentence shall be a warning to all the rest of your compa-P 2 nions,

nions, not to tell lies for want of wit. Upon this he began to beat his snuff-box with a very saucy air, and opening it again, saith, Isaac, said he, thou art a very unaccountable old fellow—Pr'ythee, who gave thee power of life and death? What a-pox hast thou to do with Ladies and Lovers? I suppose thou wouldst have a man be in company with his mistress, and say nothing to her. Dost thou call breaking a jest, telling a lie? Ha! is that thy wisdom, old stiffrump, ha? He was going on with this insipid common-place mirth, sometimes opening his box, sometimes shutting it, then viewing the picture on the lid, and then the workmanship of the hinge, when in the midst of his eloquence I ordered his box to be taken from him; upon which he was immediately struck speechless, and carried off stone dead.

The next who appeared was a hale old fellow of fixty. He was brought in by his relations, who defired leave to bury him. Upon requiring a distinct account of the prisoner, a credible witness deposed, that he always rose at ten of the clock, played with his cat until twelve, smoaked tobacco until one, was at dinner until two, then took another pipe, played at back-gammon until fix, talked of one Madam Frances, an old mistress of his, until eight, repeated the same account at the tavern until ten, then returned home, took the other pipe, and then to bed. I asked him, what he had to say for himfelf? As to what, faid he, they mention concerning Madam Frances - I did not care for hearing a Canterbury tale, and therefore thought myself seasonably interrupted by a young Gentleman, who appeared in the behalf of the old man, and prayed an arrest of judgment; for that he the faid young man held certain lands by his the faid old man's life. Upon this, the folicitor of the Upholders took an occasion to demand him also, and thereupon produced feveral evidences that witneffed to his life and conversation. It appeared, that each of them divided their hours in matters of equal moment and importance to themselves and to the public. They rose at the same hour: While the old man was playing with his cat, the young one was looking out of his window; while the old man was smoaking his pipe, the young man was rubbing his teeth; while one was at dinner.

dinner, the other was dressing; while one was at backgammon, the other was at dinner; while the old fellow
was talking of Madam Frances, the young one was either
at play, or toasting women whom he never conversed
with. The only difference was, that the young man
had never been good for any thing; the old man, a man
of worth before he knew Madam Frances. Upon the
whole, I ordered them to be both interred together,
with inscriptions proper to their characters, signifying,
that the old man died in the year 1689, and was buried
in the year 1709. And over the young one it was said,
that he departed this world in the twenty-sifth year of
his death.

The next class of criminals were Authors in prose and verse. Those of them who had produced any still-born work, were immediately dismissed to their burial, and were followed by others, who notwithstanding some sprightly issue in their life-time, had given proofs of their death by some posthumous children, that bore no resemblance to their elder brethren. As for those who were the fathers of a mixed progeny, provided always they could prove the last to be a live child, they escaped with life, but not without loss of limbs; for in this case, I was satisfied with amputation of the parts which were mortisied.

These were followed by a great crowd of superannuated Benchers of the Inns of Court, Senior Fellows of Colleges, and defunct Statesmen; all whom I ordered to be decimated indifferently, allowing the rest a reprieve for one year, with a promise of a free pardon in case of refuscitation.

There were still great multitudes to be examined, but finding it very late, I adjourned the court; not without the secret pleasure that I had done my duty, and surnished out an handsome execution.

Going out of the court, I received a Letter, informing me, that in pursuance of the edict of justice in one of my late visions, all those of the Fair Sex began to appear pregnant who had ran any hazard of it; as was manifest by a particular swelling in the petticoats of several Ladies in and about this great city. I must confess, I do not attribute the rising of this part of the

dress to this occasion, yet must own, that I am very much disposed to be offended with such a new and unaccountable fashion. I shall however pronounce nothing upon it, until I have examined all that can be said for and against it. And in the mean time, think sit to give this notice to the fair Ladies who are now making up their winter suits, that they may abstain from all dresses of that kind, until they shall find what judgment will be passed upon them; for it would very much trouble me, that they should put themselves to an unnecessary expence; and I could not but think myself to blame, if I should hereafter forbid them the wearing of such garments, when they have laid our money upon them, without having given them any previous admonition.

"N. B. A Letter of the fixteenth inftant about one of the fifth, will be answered according to the defire of the party, which he will see in a few days."

N° 111. Saturday, December 24, 1709.

Procul O! Procul este profani!

Hence, ye profane! far hence be gone!

Sheer-lane, December 23.

The watchman, who does me particular honours, as being the chief man in the lane, gave so very great a thump at my door last night, that I awakened at the nock, and heard myself complimented with the usual salutation of, "Good-morrow Mr. Bickerstaff, Good-morrow my Masters all." The silence and darkness of the night disposed me to be more than ordinarily serious; and as my attention was not drawn out among exterior objects, by the avocations of sense, my thoughts naturally fell upon myself. I was considering, amidst the stillness of the night, what

was the proper employment of a thinking Being? what were the perfections it should propose to itself? and, what the end it should aim at? my mind is of such a particular cast, that the falling of a shower of rain, or the whistling of wind, at such a time, is apt to fill my thoughts with something awful and solemn. I was in this disposition, when our bellman began his midnight homily, which he has been repeating to us every winternight for these twenty years, with the usual exordium;

" Oh! mortal man, thou that art born in fin!"

Sentiments of this nature, which are in themselves just and reasonable, however debased by the circumstances that accompany them, do not fail to produce their natural effect in a mind that is not perverted and depraved by wrong notions of gallantry, politeness, and ridicule. The temper which I now found myself in, as well as the time of the year, put me in mind of those lines in Shake/pear, wherein, according to his agreeable wildness of imagination, he has wrought a country tradition into a beautiful piece of poetry. In the tragedy of Hamlet, where the ghost vanishes upon the cock's crowing, he takes occasion to mention its crowing all hours of the night about Christmas time, and to infinuate a kind of religious veneration for that season.

It faded on the crowing of the cock.

Some fay, that ever 'gainst that season comes
Wherein our Saviour's birth is celebrated,
The bird of dawning singeth all night long;
And then, say they, no spirit dares walk abroad:
The nights are wholsome, then no planets strike,
No fairy takes, no witch has power to charm;
So hallowed, and so gracious is the time.

This admirable author, as well as the best and gravest men of all ages, and of all nations, seems to have had his mind thoroughly seasoned with religion, as is evident by many passages in his plays, that would not be suffered by a modern audience; and are therefore certain instances, that the age he lived in had a much greater sense of virtue than the present.

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It is indeed a melancholy reflection to consider, that the British nation, which is now at a greater height of glory for its councils and conquests, than it ever was before, should distinguish itself by a certain looseness of principles, and a falling off from those schemes of thinking, which conduce to the happiness and perfection of human nature. This evil comes upon us from the works of a few folemn blockheads, that meet together with the zeal and feriousness of apostles, to extirpate common sense, and propagate infidelity. These are wretches, who without any show of wit, learning, or reason, publish their crude conceptions with an ambition of appearing more wife than the rest of mankind. upon no other pretence, than that of diffenting from them. One gets by heart a catalogue of title pages and editions; and immediately to become conspicuous, declares that he is an unbeliever. Another knows how to write a receipt, or cut up a dog, and forthwith argues against the immortality of the Soul. I have known many a little wit in the offentation of his parts, rally the truth of the Scripture, who was not able to read a chapter in it. These poor wretches talk blasphemy for want of discourse, and are rather the objects of scorn or pity, than of our indignation; but the grave disputant, that reads and writes, and fpends all his time in convincing himself and the world, that he is no better than a brute, ought to be whipped out of a government, as a blot to civil fociety, and a defamer of mankind. I love to confider an Infidel, whether diffinguished by the title of Deift, Atheift, or Free-thinker, in three different lights, in his folitudes, his afflictions, and his last moments.

A wife man that lives up to the principles of reason and virtue, if one confiders him in his solitude, as in taking in the system of the universe, observing the mutual dependence and harmony, by which the whole frame of it hangs together, beating down his passions, or swelling his thoughts with magnificent ideas of Providence, makes a nobler figure in the eye of an intelligent Being, than the greatest conqueror amidst all the comps and solemnities of a triumph. On the contrary, there is not a more ridiculous animal than an Atheist in his

his retirement. His mind is incapable of rapture of elevation: He can only confider himself as an infignificant figure in a landskip, and wandering up and down in a field or a meadow, under the same terms as the meanest animals about him, and as subject to as total a mortality as they, with this aggravation, that he is the only one amongst them, who lies under the apprehension of it.

In distresses, he must be of all creatures the most helpless and forlorn; he feels the whole pressure of a present calamity, without being relieved by the memory of any thing that is past, or the prospect of any thing that is to come. Annihilation is the greatest blessing that he proposes to himself, and an halter or a pistol the only resuge he can sly to. But if you would behold one of those gloomy miscreants in his poorest sigure, you must consider him under the terrors, or at the approach of death.

About thirty years ago I was a shipboard with one of these vermin, when there arose a brisk gale, which could f ighten no body but himse. Upon the rolling of the thip he fell upon his knees, and confessed to the Chaplain, that he had been a vile Atheist, and had denied a fupreme Being ever fince he came to his estate. good man was aftonished, and a report immediately ran through the ship, that there was an Atheist upon the upper-deck. Several of the common feamen, who had never heard the word before, thought it had been fome strange fish; but they were more surprized when they faw it was a man, and heard out of his own mouth, that he never believed until that day that there was a God. As he lay in the agonies of confession, one of the honest Tars whispered to the boatswain, that it would be a good deed to heave him overboard. But we were now within fight of port, when of a fudden the wind fell and the penitent relapsed, begging all of us that were prefent, as we were Gentlemen, not to fay any thing of what had passed.

He had not been ashore above two days, when one of the company began to rally him upon his devotion on ship board, which the other denied in so high terms, that it produced the lie on both sides, and ended in a duel. The Atheist was run through the body, and after some loss of blood, became as good a Christian as he was at fea, until he found that his wound was not mortal. He is at present one of the Free-thinkers of the age, and now writing a pamphlet against several received opinions

concerning the existence of Fairies.

As I have taken upon me to cenfure the faults of the age and country which I live in, I should have thought myfelf inexcufable to have passed over this crying one, which is the subject of my present discourse. I shall therefore from time to time give my countrymen particular cautions against this distemper of the mind, that is almost become fashionable, and by that means more likely to foread. I have somewhere either read or heard a very memorable fentence, that a man would be a most insupportable monster, should he have the faults that are incident to his years, constitution, profession, family, religion, age, and country; and yet every man is in danger of them all. For this reason, as I am an old man, I take particular care to avoid being covetous, and telling long stories: As I am choleric, I forbear not only fwearing, but all interjections of fretting, as Pugh ! or Pist! and the like. As I am a lay-man, I resolve not to conceive an aversion for a wise and a good man, because his coat is of a different colour from mine. I am descended of the ancient family of the Bickerstaffs, I never call a man of merit an Upstart. As a protestant, I do not suffer my zeal so far to transport me, as to name the Pope and the Devil together. As I am fallen into this degenerate age, I guard myself particularly against the folly I have been now speaking of. And as I am an Englishman, I am very cautious not to hate a stranger, or despise a poor Palatine.

Nº 112. Tuesday, December 27, 1709.

Accedat fuavitas quedam oportet fermonum, atque morum, baudquaquam mediocre condimentum amicitie: tristita autem, & in omni re severitas absit. Habet illa quidem gravitatem, sed amicilia remission esse debet, & liberior, & dulcior, & ad omnem comitatem facilitatemque prodivior. TULL.

There should be added a certain sweetness of discourse and manners, which is no inconfiderable fauce to friendship. But by all means throw out sadness and feverity in every thing. There is fomething of gravity indeed in it, but friendship requires a greater remissiness, freedom, and pleasantness, and an inclination to good temper and affability.

Sheer-lane, December 26.

S I was looking over my Letters this morning, I chanced to cast my eye upon the following one, which came to my hands about two months ago from an old friend of mine, who, as I have fince learned, was the person that writ the agreeable Epittle inserted in my Paper of the third of the last month. It is of the same turn with the other, and may be looked upon as a fpecimen of right Country Letters.

SIR,

"HIS fets out to you from my summer-house upon the terras, where I am enjoying a few hours fun-shine, the scanty sweet remains of a fine " autumn. The year is almost at the lowest; so that in " all appearance the rest of my Letters between this and fpring, will be dated from my parlour-fire, where the P 6

" the little fond prattle of a wife and children will fo " often break in upon the connexion of my thoughts, " that you will eafily discover it in my style. If this " winter should prove as severe as the last, I can tell " you before hand, that I am likely to be a very miserable man, through the perverse temper of my eldest boy. When the frost was in its extremity, you must know, " that most of the black-birds, robins, and finches of " the parish, whose music had entertained me in the " fummer, took refuge under my roof. Upon this, my " care was, to rife every morning before day to fet open " my windows for the reception of the cold and the " hungry, whom at the fame time I relieved with a very oplentiful alms, by strewing corn and seeds upon the floors and shelves. But Dicky, without any regard to " the laws of hospitality, confidered the casements as fo " many traps, and used every bird as a prisoner at dis-" cretion. Never did tyrant exercise more various " cruelties: Some of the poor creatures he chased to " death about the room; others he drove into the jaws " of a blood-thirsty cat; and even in his greatest acts " of mercy, either clipped the wings, or finged the " tails, of his innocent captives. You will laugh, when " I tell you I sympathized with every bird in its misfor-" tunes; but I believe you will think me in the right " for bewailing the child's unlucky humour. On the other hand, I am extremely pleafed to fee his younger brother carry an universal benevolence towards every "thing that has life. When he was between four and " five years old, I caught him weeping over a beautiful " butter-fly, which he chanced to kill as he was playing " with it; and I am informed, that this morning he has " given his brother three half-pence, which was his " whole estate, to spare the life of a Tom-tit. These " are at prefent the matters of greatest moment within " my observation, and I know are too trifling to be " communicated to any but so wife a man as yourself, " and from one who has the happiness to be

Your most faithful,

and most chedient servant.

The best critic that ever wrote, speaking of some pasfages in Homer which appear extravagant or frivolous, fays indeed, that they are dreams, but the dreams of Jupiter. My friend's Letter appears to me in the same light. One fees him in an idle hour; but at the fame time in the idle hour of a wife man. A great mind has fomething in it too fevere and forbidding, that is not capable of giving itself such little relaxations, and of condescending to these agreeable ways of trisling. Tully, when he celebrates the friendship of Scipio and Lælius, who were the greatest as well as the politest men of their age, represents it as a beautiful passage in their retirement, that they used to gather up shells on the feashore, and amuse themselves with the variety of shape and colour, which they met with in those little unregarded works of Nature. The great Agefilaus could be a companion to his own children, and was surprized by the Ambassadors of Sparta as he was riding among them upon an hobby-horse. Augustus indeed had no playfellows of his own begetting; but is faid to have paffed many of his hours with little Moorish boys at a game of marbles, not unlike our modern taw. There is, methinks, a pleasure in seeing great men thus fall into the rank of mankind, and entertain themselves with diverfions and amusements that are agreeable to the very weakest of the species. I must frankly confess, that it is to me a beauty in Cato's character, that he would drink a chearful bottle with his triend; and I cannot but own. that I have feen with great delight one of the most celebrated Authors of the last age feeding the ducks in Saint Icmes's Park. By instances of this nature, the Heroes, the Statesmen, the Philosophers, become as it were familiar with us, and grow the more amiable, the lefs they endeavour to appear awful. A man who always acts in the Severity of Wisdom, or the Haughtiness of Quality, feems to move in a personated part: It looks too constrained and theatrical for a man to be always in that character which distinguishes him from others. Befides that, the flackening and unbending our minds on fome occasions, makes them exert themselves with greater vigour and alacrity, when they return to their proper and natural state.

As this innocent way of passing a leisure hour is not only consistent with a great character, but very graceful in it, so there are two sorts of people to whom I would most earnestly recommend it. The first are those who are uneasy out of want of thought; the second are those who are so out of a turbulence of spirit. The first are the impertinent, and the second the dangerous part of mankind.

It grieves me to the very heart, when I see several young Gentlemen, descended of honest parents, run up and down hurrying from one end of the town to the other, calling in at every place of refort, without being able to fix a quarter of an hour in any, and in a particular hafte without knowing for what. It would, methinks, be some consolation, if I could persuade these precipitate young Gentlemen to compose this reftlessiness of mind, and apply themselves to any amusement, how trivial foever, that might give them employment, and keep them out of harm's way. They cannot imagine how great a relief it would be to them if they could grow fedate enough to play for two or three hours at a game of push-pin. But these busy, idle animals, are only their own tormercors: The turbulent and dangerous are for embroiling councils, flirring up feditions, and subverting constitutions, out of a mere restlessness of temper, and an infe, ability of all the pleasures of life that are calm and inno ent. It is impossible for a man to be so much employed in any scene of action, as to have great and good affairs enough to fill up his whole time; there will full be chasms and empty spaces, in which a working mind will employ itself to its own prejudice, or that of others, unless it can be at ease in the exercise of such actions as are in themselves indifferent. How often have I wished, for the good of the nation, that feveral famous politicians could take any pleafure in feeding ducks. I look upon an able statesman out of bufin is, like a huge whale, that will endeayour to evertue the ship, unless he has an empty cask to play with.

But to return to my good friend and correspondent, I am afraid to shall both be laughed at, when I confess, that we have often gone out into the field to look upon a bird's nest; and have more than once taken an evening's walk together on purpose to see the sun set. I shall conclude with my answer to his foregoing Letter:

Dear Sir,

"Thank you for your obliging Letter, and your kindness to the distressed, who will, doubtless, " express their gratitude to you themselves the next " fpring. As for Dick the tyrant, I must defire you " will put a stop to his proceedings; and at the same " time take care, that his little brother be no lofer by " his mercy to the Tom-tit. For my own part, I am " excluded all conversation with animals that delight " only in a country life, and am therefore forced to en-66 tertain myfelf as well as I can, with my little dog and cat. They both of them fit by my fire every " night, expecting my coming home with impatience; " and at my entrance, never fail of running up to me, " and bidding me welcome, each of them in his proper " language. As they have been bred up together from their infancy, and feen no other company, they have " learned each other's manners, fo that the dog often " gives himself the airs of a cat, and the cat in several of her motions and gestures, affects the behaviour of " the little dog. When they are at play, I often make one with them: And fometimes please myself with " confidering, how much reason and instinct are capa-" ble of delighting each other. Thus, you see, I have communicated to you the material occurrences in my family, with the same freedom that you use to me; as I am with the same sincerity and affection,

Your most faithful

humble servant,

Isaac Bickerstaff.

Nº 113. Thursday, December 29, 1709.

Ecce iterum Crispinus!

Juv.

Once more Crifpinus comes upon the stage.

Hay-market, December 23.

W Hereas the Gentleman that behaved himself in a very disobedient and obitinate manner at his late trial in Sheer-lane on the twentieth instant, and was carried off dead upon taking away of his Snuff box, remains still unburied; the Company of Upholders not knowing otherwise how they should be paid, have taken his goods in execution to defray the charge of his funeral. His faid effects are to be exposed to fale by auction, at their office in the Hay-market, on the fourth of January next, and are as follows:

A very rich tweezer-case, containing twelve instru-

ments for the use of each hour in the day.

Four pounds of scented souff, with three gilt souffboxes; one of them with an invisible hinge, and a looking-glass in the lid.

Two more of ivory, with the portaitures on their lids of two Ladies of the town; the originals to be feen

every night in the fide-boxes of the play-house.

A fword with a fieel diamond hilt, never drawn but

once at May-fair.

Six clean packs of cards, a quart of Orange-flowerwater, a pair of French scissars, a tooth-pick-case, and

an eye-brow brush.

A large glass-case, containing the linen and clothes of the deceased; among which are, two embroidered fuits, a pocket perspective, a dozen pair of red heeled

shoes, three pair of red filk stockings, and an amberheaded cane.

The strong box of the deceased, wherein were found, five billet-doux, a Bath shilling, a crooked fixpence, a silk garter, a lock of hair, and three broken sans.

A press for books; containing on the upper shelf, Three bottles of diet-drink.

Two boxes of pills.

A syringe, and other mathematical instruments.

On the second shelf are several miscellaneous works; as,

Lampoons.

Plays.

Taylors bills.

And an almanac for the year seventeen hundred.

On the third shelf,

A bundle of Letters unopened, indorfed, in the hand of the deceased, "Letters from the old Gentleman." Lessons for the flute.

Toland's christianity not mysterious: And a paper filled with patterns of several fashionable stuffs.

On the lowest shelf,

One shoe.

A pair of fauffers.

A French grammar.

A mourning hatband; and half a bottle of ufquebaugh.

There will be added to these goods, to make a complete auction, a collection of gold snuff-boxes and clouded canes, which are to continue in fashion for three months after the sale.

The whole are to befet up and prized by Charles Bubbleboy, who is to open the auction with a speech.

I find I am fo very unhappy, that while I am bufy in correcting the folly and vice of one Sex, several exorbitances break out in the other. I have not thoroughly examined

examined their new fashioned petticoats, but shall set aside one day in the next week for that purpose. The sollowing petition on this subject was presented to me this morning.

The humble petition of William Jingle, Coach-maker and Chair-maker of the liberty of Westminster.

TO ISAAC BICKERSTAFF, Efquire, Cenfor of Great-Britain:

SHEWETH,

"That upon the late invention of Mrs. Catherine Cross-stitch, mantua-maker, the petticoats of Ladies

" were too wide for entering anto any coach or chair

" which was in use before the faid invention.

- "That for the service of the said Ladies, your petitioner has built a round chair, in the form of a lan-
- tern, fix yards and an half in circumference, with a
- " ftool in the centre of it; the faid vehicle being fo
- " contrived, as to receive the paffenger by opening in
- two in the middle, and clofing mathematically when the is feated.

"That your petitioner has also invented a coach for the reception of one Lady only, who is to be let in at

" the top.

- " That the faid coach has been tried by a Lady's-
- " woman in one of these full petticoats, who was let down from a balcony, and drawn up again by pullies,
- " to the great fatisfaction of her Lady, and all who be-

" held her.

- "Your petitioner therefore most humbly prays, that for the encouragement of ingenuity and useful inven-
- " tions, he may be heard before you pass sentence upon

" the Petticoats aforefaid.

And your Petitioner, &c.

I have likewise received a semale petition, signed by several thousands, praying, that I would not any longer deser giving judgment in the case of the Petticoat, many of them having put off the making new clothes, until suca fuch time as they know what verdict will pass upon it. I do therefore hereby certify to all whom it may concern, that I do design to set apart Tuesday next for the final determination of that matter, having already ordered a jury of matrons to be impanelled, for the clearing up of any difficult points that may arise in the trial.

" Being informed that feveral dead men in and about " this city do keep out of the way and abscond, for fear " of being buried; and being willing to respite their interment, in confideration of their families, and in " hopes of their amendment, I shall allow them certain " privileged places, where they may appear to one ano-" ther, without causing any let or molestation to the " living, or receiving any in their own persons from " the company of Upholders. Between the hours of " feven and nine in the morning, they may appear in " safety at Saint James's Coffe-house, or at White's, if " they do not keep their beds, which is more proper " for men in their condition. From nine to eleven, I " allow them to walk from Story's to Rosamond's pond in the Park, or in any other public walks which are of not frequented by the living at that time. Between eleven and three, they are to vanish, and keep out of fight until three in the afternoon, at which time " they may go to the Exchange until five; and then, if " they please, divert themselves at the Hay-market, or .. Drury-lane, until the play begins. It is further es granted in favour of these persons, that they may be " received at any table, where there are more present than feven in number: Provided, that they do not take " upon them to talk, judge, commend, or find fault " with any speech, action, or behaviour, of the living. " In which case it shall be lawful to seize their persons at any place or hour whatfoever, and to convey their " bodies to the next Undertaker's; any thing in this " advertisement to the contrary notwithstanding."

Nº 114. Saturday, December 31, 1709.

Ut in vita, sic in studiis, pulcherrimum & humanissimum existimo, severitatem comitatem que miscere, ne illa in tristitiam, bæc in petulantiam procedat.

PLIN. Epift.

As in a man's life, so in his studies, I think it the most beautiful and humane thing in the world, so to mingle gravity with pleasantry, that the one may not fink into melancholy, nor the other rise up into wantonness.

Sheer-lane, December 30.

Was walking about my chamber this morning in a very gay humour, when I faw a coach flop at my door, and a youth about fifteen alighting out of it, whom I perceived to be the eldest fon of my bosom friend, that I gave some account of in my Paper of the seventeenth of the last month. I felt a sensible pleasure rising in me at the fight of him, my acquaintance having begun with his father when he was just such a stripling, and about that very age. When he came up to me, he took me by the hand, and burit out in tears. I was extremely moved, and immediately faid, Child, how does your father do? He began to reply, My mother - But could not go on for weeping. I went down with him into the coach, and gathered out of him, that his mother was then dying, and that while the holy man was doing the last offices to her, he had taken that time to come and call me to his father, who, he faid, would certainly break his heart if I did not go and comfort him. The child's discretion in coming to me of his own head, and the tenderness he shewed for his parents, which have quite overoverpowered me, had I not resolved to fortify myself for the seasonable performances of those duties which I owed to my friend. As we were going I could not but reflect upon the character of that excellent woman, and the greatness of his grief for the loss of one who has ever been the support to him under all other affictions. How, thought I, will he be able to bear the hour of her death, that could not, when I was lately with him. speak of a sickness, which was then past, without forrow. We were now got pretty far into Westminster, and arrived at my friend's house. At the door of it I met Favonius, not without a fecret fatisfaction to find he had been there. I had formerly conversed with him at his house; and as he abounds with that fort of virtue and knowledge which makes religion beautiful, and never leads the conversation into the violence and rage of party-disputes, I listened to him with great pleasure. Our discourse chanced to be upon the subject of death, which he treated with fuch a strength of reason, and greatness of Soul, that instead of being terrible, it appeared to a mind rightly cultivated, altogether to be contemned, or rather to be desired. As I met him at the door, I faw in his face a certain glowing of grief and humanity, heightened with an air of fortitude and refolution, which, as I afterwards found, had such an irrefistible force, as to suspend the pains of the dying, and the lamentation of the nearest friends who attended her. I went up directly to the room where she lay, and was met at the entrance by my friend, who, notwithstanding his thoughts had been composed a little before, at the fight of me turned away his face and wept. The little family of children renewed the expressions of their forrow according to their several ages and degrees of understanding. The eldest Daughter was in tears, bufied in attendance upon her mother; others were kneeling about the bedfide: And what troubled me most was, to see a little Roy, who was too young to know the reason, weeping only because his fifters did. The only one in the room who feemed refigned and comforted, was the dying person. At my approach to the bedfide, the told me, with a low brok in voice, this is kindly done-Take care of your friend -do not go from him. She had before taken leave of her husband and children, in a manner proper for fo folemn a parting, and with a gracefulness peculiar to a woman of her character. My heart was torn in pieces to see the Husband on one fide suppressing and keeping down the swellings of his grief, for fear of disturbing her in her last moments; and the Wife even at that time concealing the pains she endured, for fear of increasing his affliction. She kept her eves upon him for fome moments after the grew speechless, and soon after closed them for ever. In the moment of her departure, my friend, who had thus far commanded himfelf, gave a deep groan, and fell into a swoon by her bedfide. The distraction of the children, who thought they faw both their parents expiring together, and now lying dead before them, would have melted the hardest heart; but they foon perceived their father recover, whom I helped to remove into another room, with a refolution to accompany him until the first pangs of his affliction were abated. I knew confolation would now be impertinent; and therefore contented myself to fit by him, and condole with him in filence. For I shall here use the method of an ancient Author, who in one of his Epistles relating the virtues and death of Macrinus's wife, expresses himself thus: " I shall suspend my ad-" vice to this best of friends, until he is made capable " of receiving it by those three great remedies (Neces-" fitas ipfa, dies longa, & fatietas doloris) The necessity " of submission, length of time, and satiety of grief."

In the mean time, I cannot but confider with much commiseration, the melancholy state of one who has had such a part of himself torn from him, and which he misses in every circumstance of life. His condition is like that of one who has lately lost his right arm, and is every moment offering to help himself with it. He does not appear to himself the same person in his house, at his table, in company, or in retirement; and loses the relish of all the pleasures and diversions that were before entertaining to him by her participation of them. The most agreeable objects recall the forrow for her with

with whom he used to enjoy them. This additional satisfaction, from the taste of pleasures in the society of one we love, is admirably described in Milton, who represents Eve, though in Paradise itself, no farther pleased with the beautiful objects around her, than as she sees them in company with Adam, in that passage so inexpressibly charming.

With thee converfing, I forget all time, All feasons, and their change; all please alike. Sweet is the breath of morn, her rifing sweet With charm of earliest birds; pleasant the sun, When first on this delightful land he spreads His orient beams, on herb, tree, fruit and flower, Gliff'ring with dew; fragrant the fertile earth After foft show'rs, and sweet the coming on Of grateful ev'ning mild; the filent night, With this her folemn bird, and this fair moon, And these the gems of heaven, her starry train. But neither breath of morn when she ascends With charm of earliest birds, nor rising sun In this delightful land, nor herb, fruit, flower, Glist'ring with dew, nor fragrant after showers, Nor grateful ev'ning mild, nor filent night, With this her folemn bird, nor walk by moon, Of glittring star-light, without thee is sweet.

The variety of images in this passage is infinitely pleasing, and the recapitulation of each particular image, with a little varying of the expression, makes one of the finest turns of words that I have ever seen: Which I rather mention, because Mr. Dryden has said in his presace to Juvenal, that he could meet with no turn of words in Milton.

It may be further observed, that though the sweetness of these verses has something in it of a pastoral, yet it excels the ordinary kind, as much as the scene of it is above an ordinary field or meadow. I might here, since I am accidentally led into this subject, shew several passages in Milion that have as excellent turns of this nature, as any of our English Poets whatsoever; but shall

only

only mention that which follows, in which he describes the fallen angels engaged in the intricate disputes of predestination, free-will, and fore-knowledge; and to humour the perplexity, makes a kind of labyrinth in the very words that describe it.

Others apart sate on a hill retir'd, In thoughts more elevate, and reason'd high Of providence, fore-knowledge, will, and sate, Fix'd sate, free-will, fore-knowledge absolute, And sound no end in wand'ring mazes lost.

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